

THE ORGANIZED FARMER

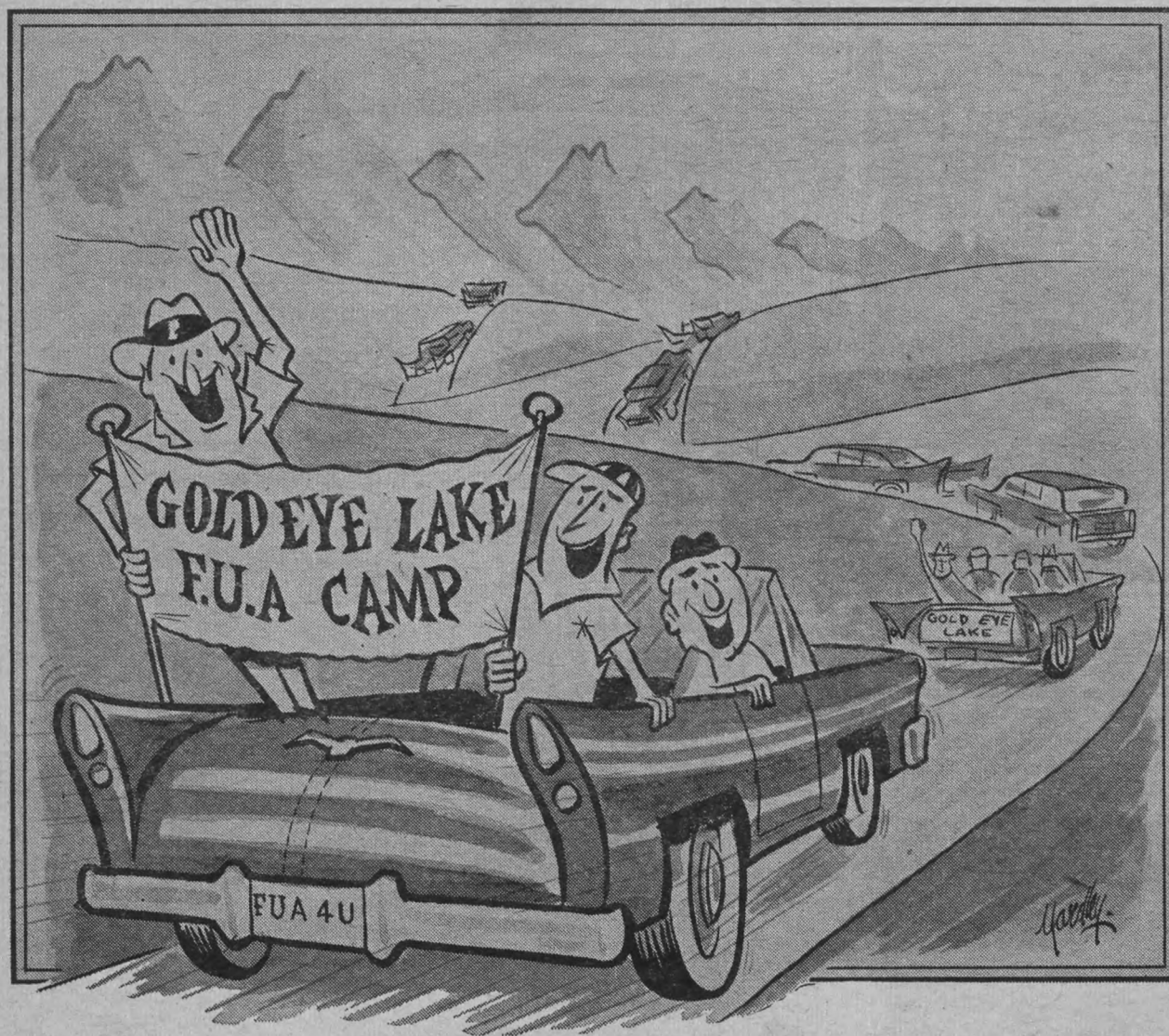
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ED NELSON

President's Report

I have just returned from a trip to the nation's capital. While I was there I presented the Brief on Land Use and the Small Farm Problem, to the Senate Committee. This was an interesting experience in that it was much less formal than cabinet presentations generally are. This committee has been sitting for the past week and was preparing copy for their first report. I found that they were very interested and they certainly commended the I.F.U.C. for the calibre of brief presented.

Our brief dealt with two main points:

(1) was the great need to develop an overall authority for

national conservation of water and land resources, and to adopt a positive approach to this problem.

(2) A more realistic approach to the small farm problem so that we might finally overcome the continuous mining of our soil resources, to try to compensate for the low returns in food production.

That members of the committee are well aware of the situation was soon evident in the type of questions they asked during the interview. My comment to them was, that I hoped that this work would lead to some concrete proposals and not just a lot of words.

I used this opportunity to meet with some of the members on various problems, including some discussion on expropriation proceedings in the Leduc airport project. I was also able to get a few informal minutes with the leader of the opposition, Mr. Pearson. I was able to get some of the latest information on the marketing board problems in Ontario. This will go out to the locals along with other information.

It happened that the flight back to Edmonton was during the afternoon and in bright sunshine. I wish that I could adequately describe to you the wonderful panorama of the Canadian countryside unfolding beneath us. The continuous checkerboard of farms and communities, show up in nearly all the various colors from dark green to the pale green shades of stubble not yet cultivated. The Ontario countryside was particularly beautiful as they have had wonderful spring weather in the past while. The whole thing looks so peaceful and quiet that a person can only wonder at man being able to create so many problems in such an atmosphere.

I want to comment a bit on the high honor that has come to the I.F.U.C. in that we have been invited to sit in on the NATO Conference in London, June 3rd to 9th. While NATO is primarily a defense organization, it is fairly obvious that people are becoming more conscious of food as a factor in maintaining Peace in the world. It is my understanding that

ours is the only farm group represented on the Canadian delegation, and since it was my good fortune to be that person, I can only hope that I can contribute something worthwhile to the meeting.

Good luck, folks, and I'll be seeing you at District Conventions.

Not Ready For Heavy Winds

by Ed Nelson

"The heavy winds this spring have done incalculable damage to the prairies' most valuable resource, the top few inches of soil. While moisture conditions have improved in the last couple of weeks, soil drifting continues. It is worse than any year since disastrous 1937.

The dusty thirties taught most farmers a lesson. They revised their farming methods, abandoning the plow and keeping trash on top to protect the soil from the wind. Most farmers were wind-conscious.

But gradually a few of them forgot that lesson. They tilled the land oftener, worked it up finer, and as long as spring winds weren't excessive it paid off in better yields. This spring they were caught off guard. Their land is blowing the worst. In permanent damage to the topsoil more has been lost than they could ever have gained.

The soil is worth more to Alberta and to the world than all the coal, all the oil and gas and all the timber contained in this province. Those entrusted with developing oil and gas are not permitted to waste it. Licensed loggers must practice conservation. When will soil conservation be similarly enforced? No farmer should have the right to let his topsoil be destroyed."

* * *

The above editorial was taken from the Calgary Albertan of May 13, 1959. Does it not seem strange to read this type of thinking in our daily "Free" press? The press that is continually telling us to watch out for our precious "Freedom". The press that tells us that we are wrong in going to Government for help when our returns from the farm are so low that, in order to survive, we start to mine the soil. The press that tells us we must become more efficient, even tho' we are already producing so cheap that we must use our accumulated soil capital to live on, let plenishing the soil. Now, because some

alone have anything left over for re- one can foresee the possibility of this valuable asset blowing out of the country we get conservation conscious, to the point that we may have to slap some controls on these "Free" farmers.

The reason I have taken the trouble to bring all this to your attention is this. We were instructed by the convention to circulate to all locals copies of a "hog marketing plan". The only plan we have is the one proposed by a joint committee two years ago. As such it is slightly out of date, but does follow the course laid out in our Provincial Act. I believe that most people have now begun to realize that farming will eventually become a controlled industry. Whether that control is by way of integration, contracts, big business, government or farmer controlled marketing boards, is something farmers must seriously consider. In recent discussions with Ontario producers I found that unless farmers take over the control of production, marketing, and very likely processing as well, soon, they will lose any or all the freedoms they still have.

I would suggest that each local form a committee to study this plan and relate it to conditions as they now are. Be prepared to take some action soon. I would also suggest you might very well question all the candidates in the coming provincial election, as to their stand on various aspects of provincial legislation.

Election Activities

Non-partisan mass meetings are being held throughout the Province at which all candidates will be invited to speak, giving their attitude regarding the F.U.A. Program. The policies of any candidate will determine his or her effectiveness as our representative in the legislature. We urge all farmers to attend these meetings.

Newly Organized Juniors

by Gerald Schuler

The "Rocket Local" Junior F.U.A., of the Hussar area, is the first Junior local to be organized in District 13 for this year. They have a membership of 44 members, and it is from this group that the District Queen entry—Janet Armstrong—was chosen. This active group of young people are now making plans to raise funds for the Goldeye camp project.

Officers for the year are: Leo Erik-

F.W.U.A. President's Report

by Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite

The promise of an early spring and then a complete switch to cold, stormy weather delayed farming operations for a time but nothing has delayed the Farm Organizations in preparing and presenting briefs on behalf of our farm people. A brief on Humane Slaughter was presented on April 24th to the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization and, shortly, a brief on Land Use will be presented to the Senate Committee on Land Use. Another very important brief on Civil Liberties was presented by Alf Gleave, President of S. F. U.

Members of the Steering Committee met and reviewed the results of the Ottawa Delegation made by western farmers in March. They felt enough time had elapsed to enable the government to make some announcements.. Since no announcements had been made it was agreed that another smaller delegation, about 2 representatives from each organization, would meet with the Prime Minister and Cabinet on May 26th.

Mr. Ed Nelson has been invited to attend the NATO anniversary meeting in Paris in June. The Food Bank and grain disposal will be given considerable discussion at that time, as well as other agricultural issues.

On May 8th and 9th the third annual Alberta Adult Education Conference was held at the Banff School of Fine Arts. As this was the first time I had ever attended anything at the School, I was quite impressed with the serene beauty and quiet of the place. It is no wonder when one goes once to this delightful spot they like to return.

I was very pleased also that Mrs. P. Dowhaniuk, our 2nd Vice-President and Mrs. P. Duby, our son, president; Edward Kaiser, first vice-president; Gwen Simmons, second vice-president; and Barbara Johnson, secretary.

Adult supervisors who did much to organize the local are Mrs. Leonard Raffler, Earl Johnson and Bill Will.

Education Convener, were able to attend.

The outstanding speaker of the Conference was Mr. Malcolm Knowles, Executive Director of the Adult Education Association, in the U.S.A.

From our discussion groups we drafted an outline of "Problems In Developing Programs That Educate." There were 19 points and our discussion revolved around these points.

1. Locating people that can teach well.

2. Getting able people to accept leadership with responsibility, with time and finances.

3. Fear to participate for fear of exposure.

4. Lack of understanding by planners of the goals and potentials.

5. Insecurity of the real worth of education.

6. Delayed retirement of old leaders.

7. Difficulty of commuting the program.

8. Shortness of adult span of interest.

9. Need of visible progress by adults.

10. Difficulty of getting individuals to find a common meeting ground.

11. Difficulty of finding real needs and interests of members.

12. Relatively low valuation of education by adults.

13. Resistance to change.

14. Disparity between older and younger members (widespread in background of ability in adults and young adults)

15. Problem of finding facilities.

16. Competition of time by T.V., Community activities and commercial entertainment.

17. Lack of skill in using good techniques.

18. Lack of leadership training opportunities for certain groups.

19. Lack of evaluation of outcomes.

Try this out in your local and see what answers you can come up with and how they apply to your organization.

Mr. Duncan Campbell and Mr. George Potter certainly did a good job of planning and all agreed it was the best conference to date.

Ottawa Submissions

The Mass Delegation to Ottawa on March 10th, received a lot of publicity in the press, radio, TV. It was fully received in most of our farm and local papers. For this reason and because of the late date of publication of the Organized Farmer for that month, we gave very little coverage to this important event.

Since that time we have had a number of requests for specific items of information, and we are therefore publishing in this issue, excerpts from the IFUC submission to the cabinet, of February 16th, also excerpts from Prime Minister Diefenbaker's reply to the brief of the Mass Delegation, and some material from the supplementary briefs presented at the same time.

Excerpts from Feb. 16 Brief

Will farmers be supported in their efforts to maintain themselves on an independent, owner-operated basis, or should they be integrated into a centralized system of food production, processing and distribution?

Depressed farm income hurts farmers more, injures workers and consumers more, and costs the country more, than farm surpluses or other aspects of the farm problem.

The following quotation from the Conference on Economic Progress, U.S.A., 1958, "The farm depression and its manifold consequences are too serious for political recrimination or maneuvering. There is room for pride in past programs, and no room for passing the buck with respect to current programs. In the final analysis, 'the farm problem' is merely a prime example of our overall failure to achieve the full prosperity and abundance for all which our burgeoning technology makes not only desirable but mandatory. Therefore, a complete reconstruction of the national farm program could well be the first step in a great reappraisal of our total economic performance as a nation."

The migration from the farm to the city can be expected to continue. The farmer and his family will help to swell the ranks of the wage-earners and/or the unemployed. In the meantime, the process known as "vertical integration" is gaining momentum, creating an increasing number of so-called subsistence farmers. **The combined effect of these trends, will be the gradual elimination of the last "sizeable group" of individual owners of productive property. With the**

disappearance of this group, the road will be open to complete centralization of control of all means of production and distribution in ever fewer and larger corporation. Farm families—the vital human element in agriculture—are being driven off the land, without opportunity for full employment at good incomes elsewhere. The "factory in the field" is supplanting the family type farm. This change, instead of lifting farm living standards, is accentuating the impoverishment of farm families. The land care and machinery needed to conserve and prepare agriculture for the growing needs of a growing population are being neglected.

Nations draw their strength from their rural people. Depopulation of the rural areas weakens the moral fibre and the virility of the nation. Political power follows economic power. The destruction of private ownership, with its widely diffused control of the economy, is a threat to democracy as we understand it.

The first question to be answered, therefore, is whether federal agricultural policies to be enacted will aim at the preservation of widely distributed private ownership of productive assets, enabling men to maintain themselves and their families on their farms, or whether the federal government intends to let those economic forces have free play, that encourage the trend to anonymous, corporate ownership with all its inherent dangers.

The Canadian farmer sells what he produces in an open market, but has to buy what he needs in a protected market. Protective tariffs on imported goods have added considerably to his cost of production, both directly and indirectly. According to DBS, direct revenue to the government from import duties in 1957 amounted to \$523,000-000. Apart from bearing his share of this burden, the farmer has to pay an additional amount for the goods manufactured in Canada which he has to buy at prices kept high under the protection of import duties. Canada's industry has grown strong under the protection of these tariffs, largely at the expense of the farming community.

On the occasion of the British Free Trade offer, Canadian farmers re-affirmed their century-old stand that they are willing to brave competition provided that industry and commerce are also exposed to it.

Much as we appreciate legislation announced in the Speech from the Throne providing for crop insurance and improved credit facilities as parts of a much-needed comprehensive long-

term farm program, we do not see how farmers' income can be brought to a proper level until measures are introduced that will establish the "fair relationship between prices received by farmers and the costs of the goods and services they buy," mentioned in Bill 237. Crop insurance will assist farmers in the calamity of crop failure, but even the man who has a crop cannot be expected to pay interest and principal on a loan unless the price received gives sufficient income to cover operating costs, living expenses and a return on invested capital.

The problem is primarily one of price farmers receive and price farmers have to pay. The gap between the two, coupled with the efforts of industry and business to "integrate" farming, is forcing increasing numbers of farmers off their land, in a manner similar to that of 500 years ago when the barons enclosed the commons and seized the land of the peasants. We witness the strange phenomenon today that, while many "under-developed" countries are making valiant efforts at forestalling Communist collectivism by developing a class of free, independent farmer-owners, Canada's farmers are in danger of losing this status and its obvious benefits, and reverting to that of landless laborers.

It should be the concern of the nation to halt this development.

(Continued on Page 28)

IF.U.C. Presents Brief Re Humane Slaughter

Canadian farmers favor humane slaughter regulations provided they are not expected to bear the entire cost. Regulations should not compel small local abattoirs to install costly equipment which might "create economic difficulties forcing them out of business." They should give "ample consideration to religious ritual."

These views were expressed in a brief of the Interprovincial Farm Union Council submitted by Gordon Hill, president of the Ontario Farmers' Union, to the agricultural committee of the House of Commons at Ottawa April 24.

The brief pointed out that any increase in operating costs of packing houses would be deducted from the price paid to the producer. "Business practices which have been in vogue for some time have resulted in a system whereby processing and retailing costs plus a profit on each operation is deducted from the price paid by the con-

(Continued on page 11)

SUPPLEMENTARY BRIEFS MARCH 10

MR. J. W. CLARKE

Kindersley, Sask.

Mr. Prime Minister and Members of the Cabinet:

A number of annual reports have been published on the farm management program carried on by the Kindersley School Unit. Some of them have indicated a relatively favorable position while others have showed rather disappointing results from the farmers' point of view. However, signs are evident throughout that if yields dropped to near normal level it would be most disastrous indeed.

Cost per bushel of wheat basis has been kept within striking distance of price. This is due to the fact that the farmers of the area concerned, have been blessed with better than average yields for a number of years. This situation cannot go on indefinitely. Indeed, it has not continued even into 1958.

To illustrate the farmers' position, let us compare the yield necessary to cover present costs with that which he can expect to obtain. During the last two years of the survey, 1956 and 1957, there is a cost breakdown available for farms considered purely grain production units.

It is not a happy picture for the grain producer. The average cost of production, which includes a 5% return on capital and a \$3,000 operator's wage, is \$27 per crop acre for the average farm of approximately 5 quarters of land with 433 crop acres. At present prices it would take a disposable yield of 21 bushels per crop acre to cover the costs of the average producers. Even if this yield could be maintained, which is extremely unlikely for it is well above average, it would mean that only half of the farmers would cover costs.

Looking now at the position of the small farm, we see a near hopeless situation. Any farm under 480 cultivated acres is classed as small and the cost per acre is needed here to cover costs at present prices. The average disposable yield of the area in question is 17 bus., all of 10 bus. below what is needed to cover costs.

Generally, we concede that the small farmer has a problem. Let us consider the large grain producer. In our analysis they are classed as those farmers over 960 cultivated acres. They averaged 667 acres of crop in 1956 and 1957.

Average costs were \$23 per crop acre. A disposable yield of 18 bus. is needed to cover such costs. Even if this yield was attained only half of the large farms would cover costs, and a much smaller

proportion of small farms. It is unlikely that this yield will be realized on the average as it is approximately 2 bus. per acre. Even so, 33% of the farmers failed to cover costs at present prices.

In 1957, with a more normal yield of 18 bus. per crop acre 55% of the farmers failed to cover costs.

Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt in my mind that the grain farmers' position is exceedingly grave. The large grain producer, as well as the small farmer, is facing disaster. The only difference seems to be the rate at which they approach it. It is evident that if society wishes to retain the family farm as a unit of production, it must act soon.

MR. RUDY USICK,

President, Manitoba Farmers' Union,
Erickson, Manitoba.

Mr. Prime Minister and Members of the Cabinet:

The merits of diversification of farming have been extolled by many as a cure-all for agriculture. We would like to point out at this time that there is a great proportion of the farmers in the West who are mixed farmers. The rate of change towards diversification is rapid and expanding, however, this has already caused many problems.

For example, the wheat acreage has been reduced because of marketing difficulties and the quota; with the result that the barley and oats markets, the rye, durum wheat, rapeseed and flax markets have all been over-burdened with extra acreage and heavier than normal supplies which have lowered and in some cases ruined the markets.

These low and lower grain prices have had a much more serious effect on livestock and meat products. It seems clear that farmers cannot have low grain prices and satisfactory livestock prices. Unless the grain problem is looked after in the west the grain problem will turn into a much more serious meat problem (which is a perishable product) and ruin the eastern farmer. Hog production in the West has already gone up 57% in the last ten years and cattle production has almost doubled.

Good rains can mean surplus grain crops in the West but these can be stored for a year or five years if necessary. No one has yet devised a means of properly storing products such as eggs, butter or meat for a long period of time.

Unless action is forthcoming soon to increase grain prices, livestock surpluses will increase with correspondingly low prices.

This would mean that a national agricultural crisis would result out of a temporary crisis in prairie agriculture.

ALEX McCALLA

Bremner, Alberta

Young people in agriculture who are either establishing or continuing a farming enterprise, are confronted with low income, instability and lack of security. The choice of a person's profession or line of endeavour is a grave decision that has to be made by all young people. The security and standard of living offered by any occupation play a major role in the making of this decision. The young farm people of Western Canada today will give these factors even closer consideration because of the low income level which now prevails in the grain producing areas. If agriculture is to retain its required portion of these rural young people, the industry must provide this security and adequate standard of living.

The task of producing food for the Canadian nation and the maintenance of our export trade, is a factor that must not be taken lightly. The young man viewing agriculture as a means of livelihood then, must see in this field a level of income and a degree of security that will attract him to our primary industry.

If the young man is to embark on a career in agriculture then, this industry must offer income, security, and stability comparable to other portions of the Canadian economy.

The migration of our rural youth to other fields of business and professions is an ever increasing drain on the supply of the men and women who will be the growers of Canadian food in the future. The prospects for the young person in the Western Canadian grain economy under present conditions, does not offer this necessary level of income and security.

The ever increasing spread between the price the agricultural producer has to pay for the goods and services he requires, and the price he receives for his grain, greatly threatens the security of the industry. The young farmer, if he is to choose grain production as his line of endeavour, must see an assurance that in the future, farming will provide him and his family with security, stability, and a level of income that will guarantee a reasonable standard of living for this family unit. The principle of deficiency payments would offer increased assurance to the youth of agriculture.

REV. FR. GEO. WALLISER

Roman Catholic Church
Dilke, Saskatchewan

Rev. B. McLellan (Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, United Church)

We, the members of the clergy in this Delegation, because of the close and intimate contact we have with rural people, and because we are concerned chiefly with the moral and spiritual values of our people, appreciate this opportunity. We wish to make this a joint statement of all the Clergymen in the Delegation.

(Introduce Fr. Geo. Walliser)

We believe that the family farm is an ideal place for the development of Christian life. In Western Canada, our rural people have made an outstanding contribution to Church and community life, out of all proportion to their numbers. They have been the chief source of supply for the personnel of the Church, also out of all proportion to their numbers.

Now, Clergy of all denominations are alarmed at the rate at which families are leaving the farm. For instance, in two municipalities in central Alberta, Starland and Kneehill, 271 families have quit farming between 1956 to 1958. We are also alarmed by the general feeling of discouragement that is creeping over the people who are still on the farm. Many young people have no hope of ever taking up farming. They have no choice but to leave home at an early age and crowd into cities, adding to the problem of unemployment, and the consequent moral evils.

This general discouragement of the people, this lack of hope in the future, this confusion about the present, is creating in our people a spiritual unrest that hinders the effectiveness of their work for Church and country.

We believe further that Canada has a moral obligation toward the overcrowded peoples of the world. Canada is a comparatively sparsely populated country. We cannot in conscience allow our rural areas to be depopulated at a time when millions of people are looking for a place to settle.

In conclusion, Mr. Prime Minister, the present situation constitutes an emergency. Rural depopulation is detrimental to Church and community. The general discouragement among our people causes us grave concern. We have duty before God to make room for destitute peoples of the world. We would wholeheartedly endorse any reasonable measures that will promote the welfare of the family farm.

Condensation of Prime Minister's Address

Mr. Diefenbaker expressed appreciation of the manner in which the presentation had been made and the "full sense of responsibility" which the delegation had shown. The Prime Minister recalled something of the homesteading days in western Canada which he had experienced, and paid tribute to the farmers of earlier years who had fought the battles for the regulation of the grain trade and their rights to ship their grain in car-load lots. Those were the days, he said, that brought about "something that is more important than many of you realize today: the tremendous advantage that came to the western farmer in the maintenance and preservation of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement. Knowing something of that instrument (the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement) and its nature as a Magna Charta to the western farmers when it was established and as it has remained since, I intend, knowing these western conditions, to stand firm in this regard."

The Prime Minister said, "There can be no prosperity in Canada with so important a sector of the national economy as agriculture being at any time in secondary state of economic well-being."

Speaking of crop insurance and the Government's intention to bring down a bill at the present session so that those "who by reason of conditions over which they had no control, should be assured of that degree of protection which insurance will provide."

"Now we come, however, in 1959 to this question, and I am going to deal with it shortly because, as was pointed out the other day, I asked for a Brief in advance to be able to meet this, but I realize that it was impossible, because it was not finalized until last evening. On this occasion I say it again, that in so far as your request for deficiency payments are concerned, we will make a continuing study of that problem. We will review the views that we have expressed in the light of the representation that has been made. Surprisingly enough though, may I say this, that there was no answer given as yet, and I would like an answer, to those views that I expressed in August last in enunciating this policy for the future—the views with regard to the question of deficiency payments. After all, we are here to discuss this matter. I said first, now that it was contended that deficiency payments would tend to impede essential adjustments to changing

conditions of technology, that even with the proposed \$1,500.00 ceiling, the greatest benefit of such payments would undoubtedly accrue to the larger producer rather than the small farmer, that these payments would result—those were arguments I advanced at the time in order to secure your reaction, and also to place before you the considerations that were given at that time. That great disparity of payments as between municipalities would result, and I could mention that disparity in Manitoba to which reference has already been made outside of this meeting, where two municipalities in Manitoba under this particular plan would find themselves in a position with a limit of \$1,500.00 per farm imposed, where in one municipality the farmers in that area would receive about \$1,00.00 higher than in the next municipality in a mixed farm area. I am just throwing these ideas out to you for the purpose of having you direct your attention to them.

"Then I suggested this, and I would like an answer in this regard—if payments were made on oats and barley, is it not more likely, and you realize that in the statements you have made, that the United States policy being what it is with its surplus disposal having challenged us so much in the various parts of the world—that if such payments were made on oats and barley, it is more than likely that the United States would react in one of two ways—to exclude Canadian oats and barley from their markets or place countervailing duties against them, equal to the amount of the deficiency payment. The seriousness of such a stand, or such a course, is shown by the fact that in 1957-58, 83.3% of our export trade in oats, 28.6% of our export trade in barley was with the United States, and I bring these to your attention, not for the purpose of foreclosing arguments, not for the purpose of determining the stand to be taken, but for the avowed purpose of having the thoroughest discussion and consideration, consistent with a problem such as you face, which I realize is different than that faced by any other industries because the farmer cannot pass on additional charges to the consumer. In other words, he is bound, particularly on export matters, by the international market."

In his concluding remarks, Prime Minister Diefenbaker said, in part,

"Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I repeat that, in so far as your representations are concerned, they will re-

ceive the fullest and most complete and continuing consideration. I am glad you came. You brought an air here of solid responsibility. You have come here, you have spoken seriously, you have placed your viewpoint before us, not, as Mr. Wesson said, in any way to be an embarrassment, but simply to assist. When you return home I hope you will do so, in no sense, with not the slightest sense that your mission was a failure—there is no failure when there is a meeting of minds and a meeting of awareness or a mutual awareness of common problems.

"I say this, it will be my undeviating purpose and those associated with me to do what we can to assure that degree of prosperity for agriculture, without which the Canadian economy cannot be maintained. What you have placed before us is not only a problem for the western provinces—you have placed it in the framework of a national one.

Followup Delegation For Deficiency Payments

Condensation of the brief presented May 26th to the Prime Minister and cabinet by the Liasson Committee for the Western Farm Delegation.

This Committee was set up by the delegation to follow up their representation which was made on March 10th in Ottawa.

The primary purpose of this presentation was to provide supplementary material in answer to certain views expressed by Mr. Diefenbaker in his address to the Western Delegation on March 10th.

MAY 26th

1. That deficiency payments would tend to impede essential adjustments to changing conditions of technology.

If this objection suggests that deficiency payments would tend to slow down the continuous trend toward greater farm efficiency through enlarging farm size, we do not believe that it is valid. Moreover it is we believe a generally recognized fact that agriculture has made its greatest advances in production techniques during periods of prosperity when individual farmers enjoy the financial resources to meet the initial costs of better production methods. If however the objection raised above is based on the fear that de-

ficiency payments would impede the essential diversification of agricultural resources, a close look at current agricultural resources, a close look at current agricultural conditions will be revealing. The last five years have been marked by a substantial movement among western farmers toward greater diversification. The shift can be measured by decline of more than twenty per cent prairie wheat acreage. It can be measured too, we believe, in the growing surpluses of dairy and poultry products and hogs, all of which are commanding very close attention from your government. These surpluses are the result of decisions by thousands of individual farmers to produce commodities either more readily saleable than wheat, oats and barley, or which command a relatively higher price in the market place. The problem being faced by the producers of these other commodities has been created in a large measure by the low price of grain in relation to the prices of these other commodities. Deficiency payments on grain can be used as an instrument whereby the government may if it wishes, play a part in determining the rate of diversification to the end that it will more closely match changing market conditions. The alternative, is to allow the prices of other farm commodities to fall to the point where the whole farming population becomes a group of second class citizens, denied by the circumstances of their occupation from sharing the high standard of living available to other Canadians.

New technology is not always a guarantee of lower prices to consumers. Great strides have been made in the introduction of new technology in many segments of Canadian industry during the last decade. Yet it is a fact that almost every class of goods sold in Canada has undergone price increases in the same period, in spite of the new and presumably new methods of production. Agriculture should not be singled out as the only sector of the economy which is expected to reduce prices by exploitation of technology when costs of production continue to rise.

2. Dealing with the proposed 1500 dollar ceiling, the greatest benefits of such payments would undoubtedly accrue to a larger producer rather than the small farmer.

Any system of payments, whether made on the acres or on bushels will return fewer dollars to the small farmer than to the large farmer, but the amount of assistance received by the small farmer in relation to the total

cost of his production or in relation to his total gross income, would be relatively higher than for the large farmer.

The effect of the quota system must not be overlooked in any appraisal of the deficiency payment principle. In this manner the market is shared as equitably as possible as a result of the controlling effect of the quota system. Farm size is usually expressed in terms of acreages but acreage itself barely reflects the true size of a farm unit in terms of produce capacity. Annual total production must be considered along with farm size in any discussion of income and income support measures. Consequently it is our conviction that no program of assistance to western farmers can be considered equitable unless it takes into account the unit prices as well as the quantity each farm product produced on the individual farm. The basic problem is low farm income caused by the low grain prices. The only way to correct this is through the grain pricing system, by returning grain prices to an adequate level.

3. A great disparity of payments as between municipalities will result from the application of deficiency payments on grain.

It is undoubtedly true that there is bound to be disparity between the amounts of payments farmers will receive in one municipality or one crop district as compared with the amount which they will receive in another. It would not be expected that deficiency payments on grain would be high in a municipality situated within the milkshed of a large city where, in all probability, the type of agriculture practised would reflect the demand for fluid milk, eggs, poultry and vegetables.

In arguments presented in opposition to deficiency payments on grain, two crop districts in Manitoba have been referred to. It was indicated that the average two year total payment per farmer under the proposed deficiency payment program would be \$219.00 in one district while in another it would be \$900.00.

We submit that there need be nothing unfair about this. In the first crop district cited the average annual marketing, of wheat, oats and barley, amounted to 515 bushels per farmer, the second crop district averaged was 2248 bushels. The disparity can be explained if the farmer in the first crop district have been marketing most of their grain through livestock, poultry or other farm products, the other possible reason for grain deliveries as low as 515 bushels

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Royal George Hotel EDMONTON

would be crop failure, if the reason was crop failure the Farmers' Assistance should take the form of a crop insurance.

4. If deficiency payments were made on oats and barley it is more than likely that the United States would react in one of two ways, exclude Canadian oats and barley from their markets, or place countervailing duties against them equal to the amount of the deficiency payments.

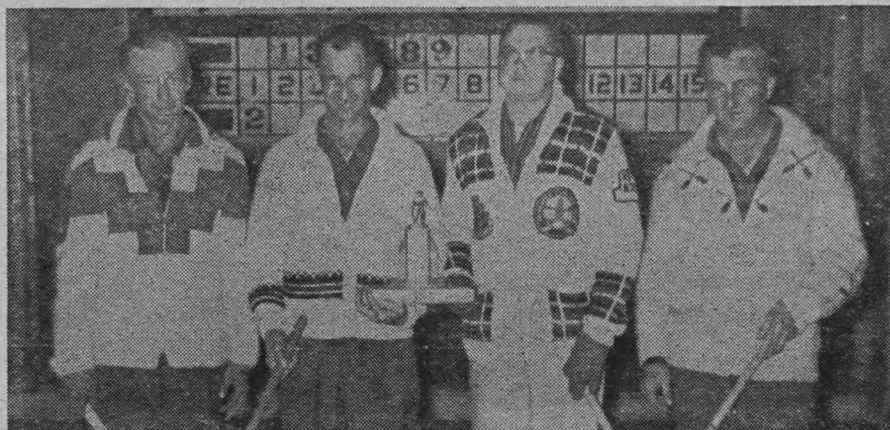
Prices at which oats and barley are offered for sale in Canada are the same for domestic consumers, United States Importers, or for export to Europe. If at the end of the marketing period deficiency payments are paid to the producer of oats and barley it can have no effect on the transactions which were concluded months before. Deficiency payments on oats and barley paid on a retroactive basis cannot be regarded as subsidizing exports.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

by Kay Dowhanuk

Bad roads, poor conditions and mechanical failures are responsible for very few automobile accidents according to a survey by the All Canada Insurance Federation. They go on to claim that 99 per cent of all accidents are avoidable. One could conclude then that the majority of accidents are caused by carelessness, that is speeding, disregard for or unfamiliarity of regulations, impairment, impulses of adventure, to name a few. Also times of emotional stress or unusual tiredness are unsafe for driving.

I am especially pleased with the response from the locals and the car pool agents to our offer of the film on "Better Safety Tests". Up to about the middle of June the Alberta Safety Council



Winners of the 1st event at the sub-district 1, district 6 bonspiel at Redwater on March 28th were Peter Pushilak, Henry Wacowich, Reg Paschisney and Leo Wacowich.



Winners of the Co-op event at the sub-district 1, district 6 bonspiel at Redwater on March 28th were Erwin Strawson, Ray Rigney, Harry Mulligan and Bill Carleton.

will have sent out some 50 strips and slides. Some of these were used a number of times. From the letters I received the locals say they have enjoyed the film and have found it to be very educational. Many are asking for suggestions for other films on highway safety. The Alberta Safety Council will soon make available strips and slides of another film. A circular letter will be mailed out to the locals informing them of same. I wish to commend the Alberta Safety Council, especially Bill Perkins

for their effort and their contribution to the success of this program, also the Shell Oil Company who made the film available.

Highway Safety Education should be a continuing process, we can evaluate the damage to property which is increasingly appalling each year, but certainly none of us can evaluate the damage caused by broken bodies, lost lives, and the suffering imposed on relatives. We

(Continued on page 13)

FARMING IS A *RISKY* BUSINESS

**DON'T TAKE *EXTRA* CHANCES
ON RISKS YOU CAN AVOID!**

**TRACTOR CAUSES HIGHWAY
ACCIDENT**

LIVESTOCK LOOSE ON ROAD

**YOUR EMPLOYEE
HURT IN FARM ACCIDENT**

HUNTING COMPANION INJURED

**YOU ARE PROTECTED AGAINST THESE AND MANY
OTHER TYPES OF EVERYDAY FARM ACCIDENTS BY
A FARMERS UNION BLANKET FARM LIABILITY POLICY**



**Come to FUA District Convention
for Further Information !**

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

June 15	-	District 11, Consort
June 16	-	" 13 Medicine Hat
June 17	-	" 14 Lethbridge
June 19	-	" 10 Olds
June 20	-	" 12 High River
June 23	-	" 1 Grande Prairie
June 24	-	" 2 Falher
June 25	-	" 3 Athabasca
June 26	-	" 9 Wetaskiwin
June 29	-	" 8 Forestburg
July 3	-	" 5 Evansburg
July 4	-	" 6 St. Michael
July 6	-	" 7 Wainwright
July 7	-	" 4 St. Paul

I.F.U.C. PRESENTS BRIEF RE HUMANE SLAUGHTER

(Continued from page 5)

sumer, and the balance is offered to the producer."

The IFUC maintained that chain stores and packing houses are in a position to pass increased costs down the line, which the livestock producer could not do. It recommended that regulations which would significantly increase slaughter costs should not be put into effect "until such time as farmers are assured returns for their livestock, which provide production costs plus a reasonable profit, at least on the requirements of the domestic market."

The brief emphasized that farmers selling to consumers through public markets have their animals slaughtered in abattoirs operating only one or two days a week whose operations would not justify installing expensive equipment.

In recognition of freedom of worship, it urged that ritual slaughter be given active consideration.

Why You Should Buy Insurance from the F.U.A.

It has been brought to our attention that agents for regular insurance companies are starting to advertise that you should buy your auto and fire insurance from them because they are experienced and established.

We are quite sure that since the Co-op Fire and Casualty Co. and the F.U.A. Car Pool have appointed agents all over the province, farmers have received more information on insurance problems than they ever did in the past. Our agents have been carefully instructed to advise the people of the coverage they need and explain all parts of the policy very clearly to everyone, and these instructions have been carried out by all our agents.

For this reason we can say that people are better informed on their insurance problems than ever before. And everyone is benefitting from lower cost of

Girls on the Farm

by Ethel Jasman

There has been much talk and debate on whether girls on the farm have the same opportunities for advancing socially as their city cousins. There is no doubt that not too long ago our farm girls did not have the opportunities that city girls did, as living on farms they were isolated and did not have the continuous social contact that city girls had access to; thus they were prone to be more backward in self-expression. These isolated conditions have been greatly improved the last two decades with rural electrification, radio, telephones, television and, yes, with larger school divisions.

No longer need farm girls feel that they are being left out or are missing out on something worth while in life, as each age must find its own way of giving expression to the meaning of life.

A modern farm home large enough to be an economic unit today has a great deal more to offer than a city home. There is no end to the entertainment young farm people can have if they are willing to put forth the efforts. Our farm girls today have opportunities to belong to garden clubs, sewing clubs, calf clubs, grain clubs, home-crafts, Junior F.U.A. and many more functions which are splendid ways to advance socially and intellectually. There is no better way to cultivate human relationships and friendships than by social entertainment. This is where our city cousins very often lose out; many a city girl leads a pitifully lonely life in a large city where no one knows or cares.

The leadership courses offered at the Banff School of Fine Arts; Farm Young People's Week, yes, and our Goldeye Camp when it becomes a reality, can provide advancement in leadership and the fine arts.

Good neighbors create other good neighbors and out of their neighborly exchange grows a better world. In democracy all real help is self-help; our governments merely act as a demonstrating agency to work out ways and means that will improve conditions for the majority.

insurance. If, due to the efforts of the F.U.A. anyone can point at one of our agents and say they are not of unquestioned integrity and well established we would like their names.

THIS MONTH . . .

The other day, in casual conversation, one of our members said, "What have you been doing at head office during the past month?" This is a fair question; and it comes up often. What **are** the executive and staff doing? We need to do a better job of telling members about our day-to-day activities.

From now on, "This Month..." will appear in each issue of the Organized Farmer. It will provide, in capsule form, a report of what has happened, where your staff have been and what they tried to do, a record digest for the busy reader. More detailed reports will be carried in special articles in the same copy.

Your comments will be appreciated.

May 5 — Mrs. Braithwaite attended the meeting of the Advisory Board to the Indian Association of Alberta in Calgary.

May 6 — Mr. Nelson presented I.F.U.C. Brief to the Senate Committee on Land Use sitting in Ottawa.

May 7-8 — Adult Education Conference held at the Banff School of Fine Arts: Mrs. Braithwaite, Mrs. Dowhaniuk, Mrs. Duby and Bill Harper.

May 8 — Planning Committee for Display at Calgary Stampede (Coordination of Farm Groups) Del McCorkle representing the F.U.A.

May 11 — A.F.A. and F.U.A. Committee on Vertical Integration met in the board room of central office.

May 11 to 15 — University of Alberta sponsored course on "Fundamentals of Supervision", attended by Mrs. Molen and Del McCorkle.

May 17 — Jr. F.U.A. Camp Committee met at Goldeye Lake: Alex McCalla, Dien Lien, Mrs. Gibeau, George Loree, Tom Nesbitt, Mr. and Mrs. Platt and daughter Margaret, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and family and Del McCorkle.

May 20 — Finance Committee meeting held at central office: Mr. A. Wood, Mrs. Dowhaniuk and Oscar Hittinger.

May 21 — F.U.A. Executive met at central office with all members present.

May 25 — Del McCorkle showed film and spoke on Vertical Integration to the Bluffton Agricultural Association.

May 26 — Mr. Nelson representing the F.U.A. assisted with the submission of the Follow up Brief on Deficiency Payments to the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Also attended I.F.U.C. Executive meeting held in Ottawa.

May 25-26 — Safety Conference held in Calgary, attended by Mrs. Braithwaite, Mrs. Sissons and Walter Scheidt.

May 27 — Mrs. Braithwaite spoke to the Women's Institute Convention in Edmonton.

May 29 — Annual meeting of the Alberta Farm Forum held in the board room.

Office activities of the month included: Mailing 34,000 copies of The Organized Farmer; local mailing to all locals and officials preparing credential lists for district conventions; assisting district officials in arranging mass non-political meetings.

Are You Listening to --

"The Voice of Agriculture" your FUA Radio Program (May 13, May 18, May 21)

CJDV—Drumheller 7:15 a.m.

CKSA—Lloydminster 6:55 a.m.

CJCD—Dawson Creek 7:25 a.m.

CFCW—Camrose 6:55 p.m.

CKYL—Peace River 7:00 a.m.

CFGP—Grande Prairie 1:10 p.m.

CHFA—Edmonton (French) 12:53 p.m.

From the Broadcast of May 13—"Well, very briefly, there is the story of the Report of the Bracken Commission. We believe that farmers will feel pretty well satisfied with it. It's been a long hard fight, but the report backs up the farmers' claims, and recommends most of what we asked for.

Once more, steady pressure through our farm organization has paid off. All that is left is for the government to accept and implement the Commission's findings. Farmers will insist that this be done—and soon."

From the Broadcast of May 18 — "Here is another matter about which the Farmers' Union feels strongly — the matter of compulsory liability and property damage insurance. We feel that no one should be able to get a license for car or truck until he is able to show that he carries insurance for at least \$50,000 and \$100,000 public liability and \$5,000 property damage.

How much more sensible this would be than the present system, under which someone with no assets whatever, can still get a license and drive a car, without any insurance. If such a person is at fault in an accident the other party has no protection, except the Unsatisfied Judgement Fund."

From the Broadcast of May 21—"For almost 20 years, we have had only the occasional dry year. We can expect, sometime, to get several in a row. That is a natural fact which goes with the prairies. When one of these dry cycles comes around again, our soil will drift, unless we plan, and work, to prevent it. We will always have this problem."

"Nature keeps the soil covered with a coat of vegetation—either living or dead at all times. We must keep this coat in good repair—at all times."

Ontario Exchange Visit

by Gerald Schuler

We left March 9th, Ontario bound. When I say we, I mean George Doupe and myself. We arrived in Guelph the day before the Junior Farmers' Conference, which was held at the Agricultural College.

Arriving at the college we were met by a reception committee who welcomed us and introduced us to the group. There were over 500 delegates registered for the conference, and the night of their banquet there were close to a thousand people.

The age of the Ontario Junior Farmers was on the average older than those in Alberta, as most of them attending the convention were in their twenties. Also, it couldn't go unnoticed, the ability of all the Juniors to speak, debate, discuss and organize. The get-acquainted parties were fun, and we were fascinated by the enthusiastic Ontario singing.

The banquet was the highlight of the conference, and the climax of the banquet was the announcement of the four who were successful in winning a trip to Britain for six weeks.

The Sunday afternoon church service in War Memorial Hall was one which was very significant of the spirit of the Ontario Junior Farmers, as the whole service was prepared by the Juniors, including the sermon. Upon conclusion of the church service everyone said

good-bye and were off to their homes with new ambitions.

Leaving our many acquaintances we started a whirl-wind of tours, sight-seeing, etc. In Toronto and surrounding area we visited some of the larger farming set-ups—such as a thousand acre ranch in Metropolitan Toronto. We were fortunate in being able to tour the Sportsman Show in the Colosseum. At Belleville we visited some average sized farms and found that they shared the same problems that we have. Then a tour of the Bethlehem Steel plant near Marmara. We toured an artificial insemination unit,—they are very popular in the dairying areas. At Peterborough we saw the lift-locks — the first I've ever seen. At the Dominion Capital we were taken through the parliament building, up in the Peace Tower, visited the Public Archives, and were escorted through the Royal Canadian Mint which was very interesting. (They didn't give us any samples though).

The Queen Elizabeth Highway and Hamilton-Burlington Skyway are very nice to drive on. The International Harvester plant was an interesting tour—seeing how the implements are built. A new loose-housing dairy barn was impressive in the amount of labor that was saved. A day at the world-known Niagara Falls was well enjoyed and here we saw the Oakes Garden, Ontario Hydro, as well as other scenic spots. The Ridgetown Agriculture College, which is quite new, was interesting. The Aylmer tobacco auction was something

new to us, as was the Imperial Tobacco plant which we toured.

In this area we visited some huge farms, registered beef breeders and Holstein breeders. The Kitchener Market was quite different to any we had seen before. In Dufferin County we visited with some of the Potato Seed Growers and had a look at the potatoes in storage.

There are many things which we saw and did that weren't mentioned, but to us are just as important. For example, the homes and the wonderful people we stayed with.

This trip will always remain uppermost in my memory of happy, and interesting experiences. I shall never forget the friendly province of Ontario, with its maple trees and towering silos.

We sincerely thank our Eastern friends for their very warm hospitality. And thank you, Alberta Junior Farmers' Union for having sent us on this wonderful trip.

FARMERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Galahad Pleasington F.U.A. Local are holding their annual picnic at their usual grounds S.E. 11-42-14-4 on Farmers' Day. There is no admission and everybody is welcome.

HIGHWAY SAFETY . . .

(Continued from page 9)

know that our highways will be getting more crowded each year, and many of us who have not yet experienced such a tragedy are wondering when the law of averages will catch up to us.

What is the problem? — Where is the answer? We can never hope to prevent all accidents, but surely we can try to reduce them. If we can't succeed by education alone, then we will have to increase the enforcement of strict traffic laws. Two years ago, Governor A. Langlie of Washington State declared total war on traffic killers. The results since have proved conclusively that death on the highways can be dramatically reduced by strict enforcement of intelligent traffic laws, provided drivers understand the laws and see the need to obey them.

We are looking forward to the outcome of the discussion at the Safety Conference at Calgary on May 25th and 26th.

MEMBERSHIP UP TO APRIL 30, 1959

District	Membership	Units	1958 Total Units
District 1	3,788	1,796	1,268
District 2	4,502	2,067	1,252
District 3	3,755	1,811	1,544
District 4	5,134	2,253	1,939
District 5	4,161	1,845	1,322
District 6	6,127	2,903	2,632
District 7	5,550	2,586	2,538
District 8	4,642	2,227	1,855
District 9	5,444	2,582	2,083
District 10	6,776	3,362	2,493
District 11	3,280	1,656	1,303
District 12	3,995	1,845	1,723
District 13	1,864	851	765
District 14	3,939	1,952	1,661
	<u>62,957</u>	<u>29,736</u>	<u>24,378</u>

F.U.A. Car Pool Insurance Agents

- EDMONTON — Mrs. P. Molen—F.U.A. Office
 ACME — James Ellis—A.W.P. Agent.
 AIRDRIE — Howard Stapley—A.W.P. Agent
 ABEE — Co-op Store
 ALIX — Bert McAlister—A.W.P. Agent
 ALHAMBRA — John G. Wulff
 ANDREW — Andrew Co-op Assoc. Ltd.
 ARROWWOOD — Dean Cofell—A.W.P. Agent
 ATHABASCA — E. Siemens—Athabasca Co-op Store.
 ALLIANCE — Jack Bateman.
 BARONS — Alfred Sloan—A.W.P. Agent.
 BARRHEAD — Steve Barton—Co-op Store
 BASHAW — Bernie L. Spelrem—A.W.P. Agent.
 BASSANO — Stanley Craig—A.W.P. Agent.
 BINDLOSS — A. G. Bendall—Maple Leaf Oil.
 BLUFFTON — Charlie Plank
 BON ACCORD — Kay Dowhaniuk
 BONNYVILLE — Marcel Choquet—A.W.P. Agent
 BOWDEN — Grant Field—A.W.P. Agent
 BOYLE — Walter Bayda—A.W.P. Agent
 BRANT — Bernard Sellers—A.W.P. Agent.
 BRETON — Hans Hanson
 BROOKS — Victor Rose
 BRUCE — Harold Hisset—A.W.P. Agent
 BROWVALE — A. Fordyce
 BURDETT — John Kreeft
 BUSBY — Busby Co-op Assoc. Ltd.
 CAMROSE-ROUND HILL — Stan Perka
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 CARDSTON — Paul Worth—A.W.P. Agent.
 CARMANGAY — H. A. Blimkie—A.W.P. Agent
 CARROT CREEK — Thomas Silk
 CARSTAIRS — R. M. Poirier
 CROSSFIELD — Clarence Crockett—A.W.P. Agent
 CASTOR — Eric Sharp—A.W.P. Agent.
 COALDALE — F. J. Oliver—A.W.P. Agent.
 CHAUVIN — Alfred Gregory—A.W.P. Agent
 CHIPMAN — Mike Elanik—A.W.P. Agent
 CLARESHOLM — George Thorburn—A.W.P. Agent
 CLIVE — Austin Abelson—A.W.P. Agent
 CLYDE — Bert Gower—A.W.P. Agent
 CONSORT — Clare Redel
 CORONATION — Lester H. Wager
 CZAR — Ralph Brausen—A.W.P. Agent
 DAPP — Tom Foster
 DAYSLAND — Lorne Kapler—A.W.P. Agent
 DELBURNE — Mervin Paulson—A.W.P. Agent.
 DELIA — Faye McBride—A.W.P. Agent
 DEWBERRY — Neil Jones
 DERWENT — John Karpchuk.
 DIDSBUY EAST — Neapolis Co-op
 DONALDA — A. M. Vikse
 DOWLING — Luther Gilbert—A.W.P. Agent.
 DRUMHELLER — Ingvald Olsen—A.W.P. Agent
 DIDSBUY — Ace Esler—A.W.P. Agent.
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 EDBERG — Don Scott—A.W.P. Agent.
 EDGERTON — Fred Ramsey—A.W.P. Agent
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 EDMONTON — A. M. Herd, Edmonton Co-op Store
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 FOREMOST — Walter Smith—A.W.P. Agent.
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 FORESTBURG — Chris Willing—A.W.P. Agent
 FORT MACLEOD — Jack Chilton—A.W.P. Agent
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 GLEICHEN — W. Blaney—A.W.P. Agent
 HANNA — Malcolm Colbert—A. W. P. Agent
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 HIGH RIVER EAST — Robert Slack
 HARDISTY — P. A. Guenard—U.G.G. Agent
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 HOLDEN — Lloyd Bell—A.W.P. Agent.
 HUGHENDEN — Leonard Johnson.
 HUSSAR — Ted Ecklund—A.W.P. Agent.
 INLAND — H. A. Williams—A.W.P. Agent.
 IDDESLEIGH — H. A. McLaughlin—A.W.P. Agent
 IRMA — Ole Nissen—A.W.P. Agent.
 IRON SPRINGS — Eldon Wright—A.W.P. Agent.
 ISLAY — Wm. McLean—A.W.P. Agent
 JOSEPHBURG — L. Thomas—A.W.P. Agent
 KITSCOTY — Ted Sheppard.
 LAC LA BICHE — Knut Olson—A.W.P. Agent
 LACOMBE — D. G. Whitney.
 LACOMBE — Leon Ingraham
 LAMONT — Herman Dyck—Co-op Store.
 LANGDON — Fred Taggart—A.W.P. Agent
 LAVOY — Harry Harsulla
 LESLIEVILLE — Alfred DeMan—A.W.P. Agent.
 LEAMAN — G. R. Getson.
 LOMOND — John Gray—A.W.P. Agent
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 MANNVILLE — Leonard McLaughlin—A.W.P. Agent.
 MARKERVILLE — Vigo Andersen.
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 MUNDARE — Mundare Co-op
 MYRNAM — Harry Haluschak.
 MYRNAM — J. N. Sosnowski
 NANTON — Robt. Younggren—Maple Leaf Oil
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 NEW NORWAY — John Morton—A.W.P. Agent.
 NOBLEFORD — Hugh Thomson—A.W.P. Agent.
 OBERLIN — Bob Linklater—A.W.P. Agent.
 OHATON — A. O. Schielke—A.W.P. Agent.
 OKOTOKS — Allan Murray—A.W.P. Agent.
 OLDS — Chas. McGillivray—A.W.P. Agent.
 ONOWAY — Clarence Carbol—A.W.P. Agent.
 OYEN — Oyen Co-op Store
 PARADISE VALLEY — Geo. Benner—A.W.P. Agent
 PIBROCH — Walter Regehr—A.W.P. Agent.
 PICARDVILLE — Ulric Landry—A.W.P. Agent.
 PINCHER CREEK — Pincher Creek Co-op.
 PLAMONDON — C. J. Gauthier—Maple Leaf Co-op.
 PONOKA — Fred Auten.
 PROVOST — Clifford McCall—U.F.A. Oil.
 RANFURLY — Chas. Rennie—A.W.P. Agent.
 RAYMOND — Robert Graham
 RED DEER — Red Deer Co-op
 RIMBEY — Lawrence McManus—A.W.P. Agent
 ROCKYFORD — J. S. Macbeth—A.W.P. Agent
 ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE — Clara Thompson
 ROSALIND — Walter Ramstad
 ROSE LYNN — R. C. Orford.
 RUMSEY — Thomas Pierce—A.W.P. Agent.
 RYLEY — Danny Manderson
 SANGUDO — Roy L. Thompson.
 SEDGEWICK — Art Falla.
 SMOKY LAKE — John Vitachuk—A.W.P. Agent.
 STAVELY — Geo. Harris—A.W.P. Agent.
 ST. PAUL — St. Paul Co-op Assoc. Ltd.
 STETTTLER — J. J. Tipman.
 STANDARD — M. Devost—A.W.P. Agent.
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 STONY PLAIN — Don Bancroft—A. W. P. Agent.
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 STROME — Dennis Wisner—A.W.P. Agent.
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 TEES — Swen Odland—A.W.P. Agent
 TABER — James Sloane—A.W.P. Agent.
 THORHILD — Thorhild Co-op
 THORSBY — L. G. Montpetit—A.W.P. Agent.
 THREE HILLS — William Bannister—A.W.P. Agent.
 TILLEY — Vincent Fabian.
 TOFIELD — R. J. Crispin.

TROCHU — George Park "Scotty".
 TWO HILLS — Victor Nikiforuk.
 VAUXHALL — Gordon McLeod—A.W.P. Agent.
 VEGREVILLE — S. A. Sanford.
 VEGREVILLE — Wilbur Weller—A.W.P. Agent.
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 VIKING — George Massey—Maple Leaf Oil
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 VULCAN — Herb Bender—A.W.P. Agent.
 WAINWRIGHT — Stanley Smith—A.W.P. Agent
 WARNER — William Mack—A.W.P. Agent.
 WASKATENAU — John Mulak—Wasketna Co-op
 WATTS — Archie Matheson—A.W.P. Agent.
 WETASKIWIN — Edw. Peterson, Co-op Store
 WILLINGDON — Nicholas Svekla.
 WINFIELD — Edwin Hunter.
 WILSON — Ralph Bechtel—A.W.P. Agent
 WRENTHAM — Owen Halsted
 YOUNGSTOWN — Howard Ferguson—A.W.P. Agent
PEACE RIVER —
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 FRIEDENSTAL — Seigmund Walisser.
 GIROUXVILLE — Maurice Bouchard.
 GRANDE PRAIRIE — J. Ken McIntosh—Co-op Store
 GRIMSHAW — Ronald W. Swanston
 HIGH PRAIRIE — S. W. Pisarchuk—H. P. Co-op Assoc.
 HINES CREEK — L. O. Sand.
 HYTHE — L. A. Haglund.
 McLENNAN — McLennan Co-op
 NAMPA — Wallace J. Signer
 NORTH STAR — North Star Co-op
 RYCROFT — George A. Nordstrom
 SEXSMITH — E. R. Cameron
 SPIRIT RIVER — Clifford Loraine
 SPIRIT RIVER — Lauson Scott
 TANGENT — A. Blais
 VALLEYVIEW — Walter P. Froland.
 WANHAM — Stewart J. Bennett.
 WHITELAW — Maurice H. Trahan
 WOKING — Alfred Sawers

ACTION FOR SAFETY

by Bill Perkins, Alberta Safety Council

A FARM COMMUNITY CO-OPERATES ON SAFETY —
 THREE HUNDRED MACHINES REFLECTORIZED



Farmers in the Echo Hill community gave a terrific response to a safety program designed to make their farm machinery safer to move on highways.

Three hundred farm machines operated on 70 farms had red reflective tape 3" x 6" put on them for safer movement at night both for the farm operator and the motorists travelling the roads and highways.

Many of the farmers taking part in the program were from F.U.A. locals of Vimy, Legal, Busby and Picardville.

The reflective tape was donated by members of the Echo Hill Women's Institute who with the help of 4H Club members of the Echo Hill Beef Club personally visited the farms and applied the red reflective tape to the machinery.

All members spoke of the good response by farm operators co-operating in the program and because of the enthusiastic reception the Safety Committee, Mrs. Lloyd McMillan, Mrs. Sam Yeomans and Mrs. William Price hope that further safety programs can be carried out in the future.

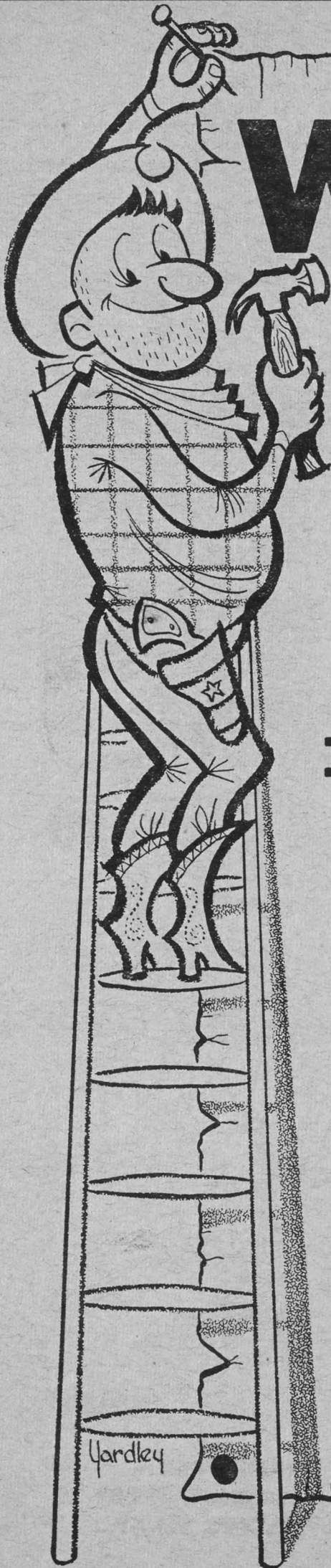
TO SAVE YOUR LIFE — YOU CAN'T BEAT SAFETY



Courtesy
 Allis-Chalmers
 member National
 Safety Council



**REMEMBER —
 LOOKING FIRST IS
 SAFETY FIRST.**



WANTED

**A BIG POSSE OF PLEASURE-
SEEKING CRITTERS TO SADDLE-UP
AND HEAD OUT WEST TO ...**

Gold Eye Lake F.U.A. Camp ON June 12

Farmers' Day is our day to play
With a little "stake" come to Gold Eye Lake
The air is clean
The view supreme
Enjoy your day with the F.U.A.
In the caravan of Junior Camp Fans.

—With sincere apologies to all poets

Hardley

Agenda for the Day

REQUIRED

You and your family dressed for hiking and camping.
Box lunches for dinner and supper.
(coffee will be supplied)

FOR CAR CARAVAN TO GOLD EYE - - - JUNE 12

YOUR

Caravan leaving Junction of Highway 11 and 2, 3 miles
north of Red Deer at 10:00 a.m.

DAY

Leave Junction 11 and 2	10:00 a.m.
Arrive at Gold Eye Lake	12:30 p.m.
Short walk to lake	
DINNER	1.00 p.m.
Short Program	3:00 p.m.
Free time to inspect site	
SUPPER — Head for home by	5:30 p.m.

Remember!

The date is

JUNE 12th.



... so
saddle up
and head
out West!

BASIC PROBLEMS OF WESTERN AGRICULTURE

SYMPOSIUM: What are the real problems that farming industry is facing? Here is a series of articles by leading Alberta farmers. Opinions expressed are those of the writers.

by H. Young

Agriculture in Western Canada has many problems. No single one can be said to account for all the difficulties faced by farmers. Inflation and the cost-price squeeze are usually blamed for the unbalance between agriculture and the rest of the economy. However, a careful analysis seems to indicate that they are not basic causes, but rather the result of something more fundamental.

The problems of agriculture in this region can be divided roughly into two groups: Natural problems, and artificial ones. In the first group we have the climatic hazards peculiar to this area; the heavy annual losses from hail, frost, drought, insects, etc. These losses add to the costs of production in this area regardless of what may be recovered by way of hail insurance, etc., for that again must be collected by premiums from producers in this same region.

Then we have the natural disadvantage of being at the far end of the freight haul so that we have to pay the freight both on the machinery and supplies which we must import from other areas, and also on the grain and livestock which are surplus in this area. The full impact of this situation is softened for grain producers by the Crowsnest Pass rates but that is almost the only mitigating factor. That is why the Crowsnest Pass rates are so vital to the prairie region.

Allied with this problem of transportation is our dependence on outside markets for the sale of our surplus products. Only about 20% of the wheat grown on the prairie can be marketed within Canada. The rest must be sold across the world in competition with all wheat producing countries.

Another problem is our dependence on a one-crop system. This has been partly overcome by diversification, but for the more perishable products the limiting factor again is markets.

While the problems natural to the prairie region are formidable, they are not insurmountable. Scientific research has done much to solve the problems of grain production, soil maintenance, weed control, and animal disease.

However, the artificial problems imposed upon western agriculture by the

Canadian economy, and the competitive system generally, are a handicap not so easy to solve. The policy of tariff protection puts the western farmer in an economic straitjacket. He has to buy in a protected market and sell in a free world. After long protest against this injustice, the farmer has been given some assistance by way of price support and the removal of tariff on agricultural machinery, but these are only palliative measures. It has been estimated by competent authorities that the protective tariff costs Canadians a least one billion dollars per year in enhanced prices to consumers. This is one of the elements in the so-called cost-price squeeze of which so much is said and written.

The most spectacular problem of western agriculture today is the disparity between farm costs and farm prices nicknamed Cost-Price Squeeze. Statistics show a 51% increase in farm costs and a 21% reduction in the average prices of farm products over the past 10 years. This trend is not improving. The prices of farm machinery are fantastic. Seed drills which used to cost \$200 and \$300 are now \$600 to \$800, and combines which cost \$3000 are \$7000, etc. Yet the farmer must pay for this necessary machinery with products priced at levels of long ago.

Within the framework of our economic system the obvious way to meet this situation is by larger units using machinery to capacity, and greatly expanded production. But here again we run head-on into the next problem — lack of adequate markets for farm products. Even today we have too much wheat, too much dairy products, too much pork, etc. Even now we can produce far more of these products than present markets can absorb, at least at a price level at which our farmers can meet their costs. Undoubtedly we could sell more to countries such as Japan if we could take their goods freely in exchange, but here we come up against the fact that free importation of goods from low-cost countries will put Canadian workers out of a job. This in turn means less demand for farm products within Canada.

Here is where we come up against the basic dilemma of our economic system. The Canadian economy is geared to make fortunes for slick stock promoters and the large shareholders of

our banks and commercial concerns. It never has given a proper standard of living to the people employed in agriculture. The fact that we have been so efficient as to overproduce our market makes things even worse for us.

For the basic fact of "Free Enterprise" is that it pays to keep an article scarce. The production of cars and tractors is rigidly controlled. Consequently prices are set by General Motors and International Harvester. There is a lesson for us in this but it is hard to apply to agriculture where control of the industry is divided among thousands of different operators, many of them fiercely individualistic. Individual farmers never will be able to set prices on their products.

Almost every farmer believes in the family farm as the ideal basis of a happy farm population. Some competent authorities argue that it is still the most efficient basis of agricultural production. But conditions are changing. Big business is now threatening to muscle in on agriculture by way of vertical integration. This could mean the doom of the family farm.

To meet the situation there are two things that western farmers can do, and I think they should do both. First, they should use every method of working together both individually and collectively. This means co-operation in the use of machinery on the farm, and co-operation through farm unions and co-ops to mobilize their strength. In this way they can help themselves by reducing costs and also wring some concessions from governments, and other groups in the economy. Vertical integration should be met by organizing our own co-op set-up to take advantage of it. It is CO-OPERATE OR PERISH.

The other thing is to work for changes in our economic system. The problems of abundance cannot be solved by the economics of scarcity. As long as we support a system under which 20% of the people own 80% of the national wealth, we shall find it impossible to establish a fair deal for agriculture or any other working class group.

So, while we demand palliatives to ease the immediate situation, let us never lose sight of the need for fundamental change. There can be no full solution of the problems of Western Agriculture without it.

* * *

by Anders H. Anderson
Director District 13

The impact of technology on agriculture in Western Canada is a basic prob-

lem. It creates cost of production problems, and it creates marketing problems due to its ability of producing greater food surpluses. It creates many other problems that were unknown or of little concern at the turn of the century.

First, we must recognize that we have accepted and are living with an advanced form of society in North America, in which the Western Canadian farmer has occupied a leading role. This does not necessarily mean that the farmer is economically better off or happier, but rather, he is frustrated due to the necessity of varied abilities to maintain his farm on a sound economical basis. Too often, this frustration is brought about through lack of education.

Technological advancement has been sought by man down through the ages. It was not until the last hundred years that its progress became apparent. Two world wars greatly accelerated its pace. During this tace of advancement multitudes of people have been released from our farms. These people migrated to the urban centres, creating new forms of production for our increasing and demanding standard of living. This increase in production is justified so long as consumer demand is apparent.

Past experience has proven that it is not until the farmer loses his purchasing power, either through the elements of nature or unfair prices for his produce, that the economic aspects are felt generally by all society.

The farmer has accepted the fact that the cost of producing has arisen and the returns of produce have gone down. Many of our so-called experts state "Produce more efficiently and beat the wolf from the door". In my opinion, we are producing surpluses now. What would happen should our farming operations become more efficient?

The challenge of solving the problems relating to agriculture has never been more acute than it is at this time. Our senior governments hesitate to assist by legislation. We are shocked by the ever increasing demands of labour unions for shorter hours and larger pay. In recent years vertical integration has come to the fore. It has many advantages, but if left unchecked, could lead to a calamity in agriculture.

Farmers must organize to a higher degree. Our farm organizations need to develop research branches to provide policy for agriculture. These research branches must have the full co-operation of our governments. They should study problems at the provincial level, national problems and international problems. All factors involving the eco-

nomical production of food both for consumption at home and for sale abroad should be carefully considered.

* * *

by J. Ken McIntosh

Western Canadian Agriculture is of course plagued with a diminishing net return, if not an outright loss, primarily because our produce sells competitively with the lowest world price and our requirements are artificially raised well above world prices through protective tariffs, duties and sales taxes. While this may be our most basic problem, which has received much thought and for which various cures have been advocated — e. g. deficiency and acreage payments, — I propose to deal with other basic problems under two main headings.

1. Advance of Vertical Integration

Where this method of production proves feasible under unprotected conditions, my belief is that we will have to live with it and either make it work to our advantage or suffer the consequences.

It seems to me that basically the bulk of the farming public is indifferent — "If it is something that requires study — let someone else worry about it for I don't want to be bothered." On the other hand, if a salesman can show him a sure-fire way to make a better and easier living than he has had heretofore — he all too often takes the path of least resistance. No need to think of the long range prospect — today is the day we live.

2. Individual Operations

In this age of technical development of machines and techniques, changes are inevitable, painful though they may be. If we receive no substantial government supports or deficiency payments, then we must somehow cut our costs to compete in the world markets. Improved methods, irrigation, and government fostering have resulted in many unexpected food exporting nations, e.g. France, Italy, and even China where famine was once the rule.

In order to cut costs there are, to my mind, several musts.

- (1) Greater production per man work unit and per dollar investment;
- (2) A market for increased production — a vital problem;
- (3) Better Farm Business Administration — including Bookkeeping and Planning — immediate and long range;
- (4) Greater support of our Co-operatives, who alone in the business world are working in our exclusive interest.

Among the problems of the individual

in any cost cutting campaign, we find the same old indifference, lack of reading and serious study, and a lack of understanding by the younger people — age 40 down, of the history of farming and farm organizations.

True, we need extended credit so that young people may take over from the many elderly farmers, but we need to prove to them that farming can be successful. We must move with the times, maybe attempting to control changes to our advantage but not trying to maintain the "status quo" at all costs.

If we have no hope of materially increasing prices or directly controlling costs of production through government legislation, then our problem is to increase production manwise and dollarwise, plus finding ways and means of disposal or else of cutting out both farm land and farmers. Frankly, it seems an awful rat race and I offer no easy, pat solutions but the problems are here.

For our own salvation and the future of our sons and of agriculture as we know it, thought, study, understanding, imagination, initiative and even a willingness to gamble are imperative. The onus is on us — we must not fail.

* * *

by Howard Hibbard, Dir. Dist. 2

The problems of western farmers are varied and many and at present some relief from these problems is urgently needed, if we are to stay in business. The largest problem, as I see it, is what to grow on our land that will be saleable and bring a fair price. We know that grain is in surplus and will not bring a price that pays cost of production plus a reasonable profit to feed the family. We can see what swinging to hog production has done to the price of pork. A further swing to cattle would do the same to beef prices. We cannot let our land stand idle. It must be sown to some crop. What shall we sow?

The wheat we grow must be sold on the world market in competition with grain with substantial government subsidies. For years we were told to be more efficient in our grain production so that our costs would be lower and we could make a living with low prices. We certainly became more efficient, and now far fewer farmers raise far more grain, but it hasn't helped. Our Canadian industries efficiency has not kept pace with the farmers, and prices we pay for items we have to have, have gone up and up.

More population would certainly help,

(Continued on page 22)

HOG GRADING

by O. E. Wobick

There has been a lot of controversy in regard to the grading of hogs in Canada. It has been a topic so often brought forward in farm movements, such as the Farm Unions, the Federation of Agriculture and many Co-operatives all across Canada that the Farmers' Union of Alberta decided to have a committee of 14, with one member on the committee from each of the F. U. A. Districts in Alberta to investigate the grading of hogs.

I was chosen to represent District 12 on this committee. The personnel of the committee were divided into two groups. Those from Northern Alberta met in Edmonton and those from Southern Alberta met in Calgary. I was with the group that met in Calgary at the Burns' packing plant.

I will give you an account of what I saw. I want to make it clear, however, that I am not speaking for any other members of the group that I was with. We went to work at 10:00 a.m.. Our first job was to inspect pork carcasses, pointing out to us the many different types and grades. We were told the weight and length required for "A",

"B" and "C" grades, Heavy and Extra Heavy grades etc. "A" grades must weigh between 140 to 170 pounds, "B" 135 to 175 pounds. We were told that even if the weight and length is correct, if a little too much fat or not enough fat appears the carcass could fall from an "A" grade to a "B" grade and from a "B" grade to a "C" grade. Anything over 175 pounds goes to either Heavies or Extra Heavies. Sometimes a perfect "A" grade or "B" grade dropped to a "C" because of black bellies coming from black hogs. We were shown the waste that had to be cut away from a black bellied carcass. They gave a demonstration of shoulder, ham and bacon recovery from an "A" grade and "C" grade carcass. After cutting and weighing the different cuts we found an "A" carcass had a much higher percentage of ham, shoulder and bacon recovery than a "C" carcass.

It is often suggested the grade of the hog should be stamped on the meat when sold to the consumer. I found that to be impossible as premium bacon has a few slices taken from a "C" carcass and probably a few slices taken from an "A" carcass goes into second grade bacon. I did, however, find that carcasses shipped to meat wholesalers or butcher shops had no stamp of grade on them and I feel they should be stamped.

We went next to see them grading on the rail. The dressed hog is slowly moving on a track, when the carcass gets to the grader it has the weight pinned on it, and from the weight and appearance the grader decides the grade and marks the tag with the grade. I spent a half hour with the grader and was surprised how well I could grade, only it took me longer than the grader.

There are changes anticipated in grading where the weight of "A" hogs will be lowered from 140 to 135 pounds and a "B" grade will have no premium paid on it.

I found there was no waste anywhere. Operations were efficient, made probably by competition between the packing firms. It is often said the packing plants make high profits, that may be so, I don't know, but I can say if the producer of hogs wants the packers' profits they can only get it by supplying necessary capital and have co-operative packing plants or have the packing industry owned and operated as crown corporations, by the provincial or federal government.

Now let us look at the side of the hog producer. After seeing so many hogs on rail I was amazed at how uneven the carcasses were, which proved to me the hog producer must pay more



MAILING ADDRESSES:
Box 1056, North Edmonton

~~~~~  
1119 - 1st Street S.E.  
Calgary

## AFTER THE SPRING RUSH WHAT COMES NEXT!

Well, there is haying, fixing fence, repairing buildings and erecting new ones.

Farmers who need materials for these jobs should get them from U.F.A. Co-op where they get top quality goods at near wholesale prices.

In stock is Baler Twine, which runs Knot Free and is treated against rot and rodents. There is also a full line of barbed wire, hog wire and posts. You can also get a full line of building supplies from nails to lumber and plywood.

These goods are available at either of the Farm Supply Shopping Centres in Calgary or Edmonton or write to the addresses listed.

# U.F.A. CO-OPERATIVE LTD.



attention to breeding stock and the finishing of hogs.

When we had a good market in Great Britain we were conscious of the fact that we had to produce a good bacon type hog but since the war we have lost the British market and now do not pay enough attention to quality. I think that our provincial department of agriculture could do more to encourage better hogs by increasing subsidies paid on registered breeding stock.

In summing up my findings I would recommend the following:

1. All hog carcasses sent out by packing plants to butcher shops or wholesale meat dealers have grades stamped on them.
2. If hog producers want the profit of the packing industry for themselves they supply funds and have co-operative packing plants or plants operated and owned by provincial or federal governments as crown corporations.
3. Dominion government pays higher premiums on grade "A" hogs.
4. Provincial government pay higher subsidies on unregistered breeding stock, with a severe culling program.
5. The hog producers pay more attention to types of hogs, feeding and housing of hogs and market at proper weights.

#### FARMERS AND FARMERS AT HEART — BEWARE

According to some — Seed Salesmen — the farmer is being offered a real buy — something brand new in Grass Seed — only \$3.00 per pound. Sorghum Alnum Grass Seed — grown and distributed by New Mexico Seed Farms Inc. of Clovis, New Mexico and imported into Canada by Kingston Distributor of Kamloops, B. C. In USA milder climates, this is a perennial and grows to heights of 7 to 15 ft. when allowed to go to seed and it is claimed to grow 2ft. in 45 days; it is worthy of note that in some states it is considered anoxious weed. In Alberta where we have, what are considered, severe winters, this grass winter kills and must, therefore, be considered an annual. Before buying this seed — CHECK WITH YOUR DISTRICT AGRICULTURIST — he is paid to know the facts and suitability of these crops for growth in Alberta.

Two known firms are soliciting orders for this seed. General Seed Company (G. E. Nesti) and western Agricultural Technology and Resarch Limited (L. E. Fipke). Deposits not refundable. These Firms can not guarantee delivery.

—B. B. B.

#### FOREST FIRES BURN 11,800 ACRES

There were 418 forest fires across in April, Resources Minister Alvin Hamilton announced today. Total forest area damaged or destroyed in the fires was 11,800 acres.

Mr. Hamilton said most of the fire damage was in the Western Provinces where the weather had been dry. Although the April tital of forest fires was well above the 20 year average for that month (330 fires), the situation was better than April when 968 forest fires burned 233,500 acres.

National forest fire statistics are collected and analyzed by the Forestry Branch, Department of Northern Affairs and National Rsesources, and reports are issued monthly during the fire season. Provincial statistics on forest fire losses are available from the provincial governments.

Canada has spent or allocated a total of \$4,642,000,000 to postwar financial aid to overseas countries, according to figures tabled recently in the house of Commons.

## Take Advantage of the F.U.A's Income Tax Service -- Available to Members

### COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FORM AND MAIL TO:

J. S. Herschel — Director  
Farmers' Union Accounting Service,  
Farmers' Union Building; 9934-106th St.,  
EDMONTON, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

We would like assistance on the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ The Preparation of our 1958 Income Tax Returns.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Establishing a Basic Herd.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Average income for past five years.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Tax.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Gift of \$10,000.00 — Tax Free
- \_\_\_\_\_ Estate Planning.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The preparation of a Net Worth Statement at December 31, 1958, so our Tax position would be cleared up at that date.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

UNION LOCAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_



## THE BASIC PROBLEMS OF WESTERN CANADIAN AGRICULTURE

(Continued from page 19)

so that we weren't so dependable on world markets and ate more of our production at home.

The protection Canadian industries get in the form of duties on imported goods works against the farmer by raising prices on all goods he must buy.

The general feeling on the delegation to Ottawa was that if the Canadian Industries have to have subsidies in the form of duties to protect them, paid of course by the taxpayers of Canada, then the farmers should be entitled to help from taxpayers of Canada in the form of deficiency payments.

The farmers have no control of the amount of rainfall they receive to grow a crop, nor the timing of that rainfall. Neither have they any control of the various insect or disease infestations which plague them. They must take their chances on these things. We have the P.F.A.A. which we all grant is a help, but in a small way. A good crop insurance plan would help. Also a good farm credit plan would help. But when all is said and done it's the prices that make or break us and a solution to our price problems is what we must find.

In my own area we have had 3 crop failures in a row and the problems are more acute than areas which have had better crops.

Some solution is urgently needed and it's high time the farmers realized one answer lies in stronger farm organizations. It did me good to see the solidarity of the Western farm people on the Ottawa delegation, and I know it impressed the rest of the people of Canada. Through such solidarity and concerted action we hope that our difficulties can be solved and some long range plan for western agriculture formulated that will allow us to make a living comparable to other sections of the people of Canada. Let's work together on the problem.

\* \* \*

by George Loree

When one thinks of problems facing western agriculture today one naturally thinks immediately of grain marketing and hog price supports, of vertical integration and contract farming, of hail, drought and uncertain yields. While these are all undoubtedly of significance, I believe that they are only a part of the picture, a part that we have always had to deal with. Our main problem is Public Relations.

A common saying now is that farming has become a business. The term 'Agribusiness' is being used frequently. This, to me, is typical of the main problem

of western agriculture - business replacing Culture in Agriculture.

We have been following closely the developments in the Revolution of Agriculture. The trend is towards larger farms and the use of bigger machinery. This increases efficiency but calls for an extended plan of farm credit, if we wish to preserve the family type farm.

Many sources say that efficiency is the answer to the farm problem. In examining the history of farming we find that the benefits from improved efficiency have not usually accrued to the farm operator. The immediate use of all technological advances to increase agricultural production on a widespread basis could complicate the present close situation between agricultural supply and demand. In short, I feel that while efficiency of production and marketing farm products is important, it is not the whole answer.

The basic Problem, in my opinion, facing western Agriculture today is how to bring about an understanding of the factors relating to our National Agricultural Policy.

Culture, according to the Encyclopedia, means "stage of intellectual and moral development, — and the list of all the items of the general life of a people represents that whole which we call its culture. In this way we speak of Greek culture, early culture, or a high standard of culture.

We should consider carefully the substitution of Business for Culture in the word 'Agriculture'. While in North America the trend is towards larger farms, a news release from Karachi, Pakistan, says "About nine million acres of land has been taken over from 6,000 big landlords under Pakistan's new land measures, and will be distributed and sold. The Foreign Minister said landlords are being allowed to keep 500 acres and would be compensated for land taken over." Evidently they feel that the best interests of the country will be served by having the land owned by the farmer, rather than have a system of feudalism.

The importance in which agriculture is held in Canada by the people as a whole is reflected by the figures on comparative outlay for agriculture. In the U. S. 8 per cent of the total expenditures of the government has been allocated for agriculture, while in Canada the figure stands at 2 per cent, plus a few expenses incurred on behalf of agriculture by the Department of Trade and Commerce—regarding the marketing of wheat, oats and barley.

An editorial in the Family Herald of

April 23 says — "Rural people have every right to live as well and as easily as their urban cousins." This is not reflected in many of our National Policies.

This problem can be considered a social problem as well as an economic one. In working towards a solution we should keep in mind human values. People should not be sacrificed for the sake of efficiency. The FAMILY FARM type of agriculture has many advantages socially, and the value of Family Farmers as consumers of manufactured goods has been made quite evident by statements of many leading Canadians.

The problem of Public Relations facing us is far reaching. John Foster Dulles in a speech at Princeton University, outlined three propositions which I think contain a moral for us;—

1. The dynamic usually prevails over the static, the active over the passive.

2. In human affairs the non-material, spiritual element is more important than the material. In War, Napoleon said that the non-material is to the material as three is to one. Communism has achieved its victories through social ideas. We think and work in material terms.

3. There is a moral or natural law not made by man which determines right and wrong, and conformity with this law is indispensable to human welfare. While Soviet Communism wholly fails to invoke moral principle, we ourselves are not doing much better.

These three propositions point out to me that we should be more active in a public relations program aimed at promoting a better understanding of the issues included both in our own membership and throughout all Canada. In this direction, I feel that the Ottawa Delegation was a good start. Furthermore, we need to develop more ideas based on what is right for everyone. The Farm Union program is already outstanding in this regard, and the new International Wheat Agreement is an example of the growth of an idea.

This public relations effort should include publicizing the findings of research such as:— economic research has shown that 1:1:7 is the ratio of farm income; factory wages; gross national product. In short, farm income must be maintained at a high level to ensure national prosperity. And another instance:— the failure of an early wheat agreement and the subsequent drop in world wheat prices was an important factor in Hitler's rise to power.

These are just a few of the reasons why I think Public Relations is the basic problem of Western Agriculture.



# Cliff Smallwood, M.P. Supplementary Briefs

## Disucusses Problems Of Farmers

CONTINUED

Following is a text from an address given by Mr. Smallwood, M.P. for the Battle River-Camrose constituency.

I should now like to turn to a problem of great concern to the farmer of western Canada. The government expended \$139 million on agriculutre last year putting it in the hands of western farmers but we still find ourselves caught in a cost-price squeeze. Let me place some comparative figures on the record. A combine which costs \$5,600 in 1953 cost \$9,000 in 1958. An Ontario farmer friend of mine bought a manure spreader for \$350 in 1953 and in 1958 the same unit cost \$700. A tractor which cost \$4,600 in 1953, cost 6,500 in 1958. Freight charges on a tractor in 1948 were \$96.47, in 1957 \$201.78 and in 1959, \$235.41. These examples serve to illustrate the difficulty the farmer experiences in equipping himself for his operation and it must be observed that throughout the period to which I referred during which prices continued to climb, the farmer's income constantly decreased.

The price of grain has not increased. Last year it might have gone up 10 cents a bushel due to better grades but since 1953 it has shown no substantial increase and in fact it has been continually declining. Western farmers are caught in a grip of a vicious cost price squeeze. Western farmers are told that they do not need to buy new machinery. How can we repair our old machinery in view of increasing costs and dwindling returns? I have not many examples of increased prices of repairs to machinery but I might state that a Massey-Harris disc spool which cost \$2.25 in 1953 cost \$4.35 in 1958. That is what the western farmer is up against today. The price of everything we require is increasing due to freight rates and other things but our products have not increased in price.

I woud define a family farmer as a man with a small section of land. Let me give an illustration concerning a farm family on one section of land with 500 acres under cultivation. The farmer is allowed to sell on a 6 bushel quota and would therefore sell 3,000 bushels. For this he would receive a price of perhaps \$1.20 per bushel, or \$3,600. As against this he must make

MR. MARTIN ARNDT, Merchant,  
Springside, Saskatchewan.

Because of the close relationship between farmer and small business, we are here to support the petition for deficiency payments.

Sound business practise demands that a reserve fund be maintained in order that worn out equipment may be replaced as required. The farmer, on the other hand, is using his depreciation in order to live, instead of keeping up his capital investment.

In one year alone in Sasatchewan, out of approximately 1100 implemet and garage operators, 453 were forced into receivership or discontinued operations. From this it can be assumed that other businessmen find themselves in the same position.

The farmer makes up 12 per cent of the total population of Canada, but at the present time receives only six per cent of the national income.

MR. CLIFF WHITING, Councillor,  
Flett Springs Rural Municipality,  
Pleasant Valley, Saskatchewan.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

#### 1. Numerous Councils throughout the

the following expenditures in round figures: taxes, \$600; fuel, \$500; casual help, \$200; seed and fertilizer, \$500; the payment on his farm, \$1,200 and estimated repairs on machinery, \$600, giving a total of \$3,400. If \$3,400 is subtracted from \$3,600 it is evident that the farmer has only \$200 left. That represents his profit on his grain farming for the year. Although it is necessary for a farmer today to raise this grain and to engage in mixed farming, I feel it is unfair that he should be expected to produce this grain with so little return on this operation. In giving this illustration above I did not take into consideration the many small items on which a grain farmer would be required to spend money. The only way a farmer can exist in the west is to go into mixed farming but he should get a greater return on producing grain. These are problems for which adequate solutions must be found.

prairies have endorsed resolutions supporting the petitions of the Western grain producers asking the federal government for deficiency payments.

2. Steadily rising costs of production to the grain farmer in recent years, coupled with falling prices for grain, have made it impossible for farmers to pay their land taxes, thereby handicapping local government councils in providing essential services.

(a) As an example, there are cases in good farming districts where, despite the fact that the Provincial Government has made grants sufficient to take care of 40% of the municipal expenditures for public works, the municipalities are unable to finance such works.

(b) There are cases of where teachers' salaries have increased from \$103,000 to \$250,000 during the past ten years in certain Unit areas. Due to depletion in rural population on account of families being driven off farms in the cost-price squeeze, rural schools have had to be closed and children transported to urban centres. Due likewise, to the falling off in tax collections, municipalities have found themselves in the position where they do not have the money to build the roads or clear the snow from same in order that the children may be transported to schools at the urban centres.

(c) Town and village councils have noted an accumulation of tax arrears due to the fact that their ratepayers dependent upon farm income are not receiving that income:

(i) For example, there are many senior citizens who, on account of advancing age, have had to lease their farms on share of crop rental. They find that their tenants caught in the cost-price squeeze have been unable to pay the rent. Thus these senior citizens are unable to pay their taxes.

(ii) These same councils have noted that in particular, among business persons, implement dealers are having a special difficulty. They are unable to collect their accounts from farmers, and in turn, farmers are unable to buy implements.

3. Tax arrears were not a problem when income from grain bore a fair relation to costs of grain production; but during the last five years, the cost-price squeeze with radical falling off in tax collections are putting municipal and urban councils on the road to bankruptcy.



## Social Credit Policy

The Social Credit Government supports the following Agricultural Policies in the Farmers' Union of Alberta Program

\* \* \*

1. An Agricultural Policy that will yield equitable financial returns to our farmers that will give them their rightful share of our national income and assure them a Canadian standard of living comparable to that of other segments of our society.
2. We believe our Federal Government should accept the currencies of any nation willing to purchase our surplus grains and not confine sales for hard currency only. We also support barter proposals to exchange grains for essential material and equipment useful to our Canadian economy.
3. Deficiency payments direct to producers or some alternative arrangement if market prices for necessary agricultural products do not yield a fair return above the cost of production.
4. That facilities of the Bank of Canada should be used to provide money at cost to finance the Canadian Wheat Board and other national marketing projects.
5. Set up an Export-Import Board to facilitate barter deals and dispose of accumulated stocks of grain.
6. We support the F.U.A. grain policy with respect to flax and rye.
7. Cash advances on grain to our farmers. This will assist them to carry on farm operations in the early fall without undue borrowings.
8. Establish a food bank to ensure at least one year's supply of essential grains.
9. Continuation of Crows Nest Pass Freight Rate Agreement as at present.
10. A Crop Insurance Plan shared by the Federal Government and the Provincial Government.
11. We have provided marketing legislation to enable producers to set up Boards to market agricultural products. Alberta has one Marketing Board in operation at the present time.
12. A committee has been set up with representatives from the Western

Provinces to consider the needs for a veterinary college somewhere in Western Canada. A veterinary laboratory for Alberta is under study at the present time.

13. A Cattle Breeding Program is also under study. We have recently established a Cattle Performance Testing Program that will assist farmers and ranchers to select quality animals for breeding.

May I conclude by saying the Provincial Government will continue to direct and expand agricultural policies for the welfare of our producers that include conservation and proper land use, efficiency in production, marketing problems and credited programs.

## Liberal Farm Policy

### AGRICULTURE

Liberals believe the farming industry in Alberta has had less than its fair share of attention in recent years. Revenues from oil and gas have been great and there has been a tendency for government to be carried away, forgetting that the 664 million dollars worth of Agricultural production last year was still more than twice as great as that of oil — and farms and ranches in this province still number close to 60 thousand. In spite of what any one may say the soil is still Alberta's richest treasurers and Alberta is still basically an Agricultural province.

Months ago we appointed a committee to consider Party Policy for Agriculture. That committee came up with a program based on the conviction that the family sized farm unit is still the backbone of Alberta Agriculture and that Liberal Policy should be directed at making rural life more secure and more attractive.

Now, what's in that program? Liberal Policy is committed to a comprehensive system of Agricultural Credit up to a limit of 25,000 dollars per loan to cover the whole field of farm operations — including land, livestock, and improvements. Liberals were the first to suggest this figure both in the Legislature and out of it.

One of the items in the Liberal 12 Points for Progress calls for making modern utilities such as power, telephone and gas available at reasonable cost to the greatest possible number of rural residents.

Another point concerns better land-use. The critic could point to some of the most shocking examples of poor land-use in this province. Coupled with better land-use our people would encourage re-grassing and distribute forage seeds to aid in the program. Farmers should be encouraged to create feed reserves and policy should favor more community pastures in those areas where they are appropriate and wanted. The carrying out of a land-use program would avoid many of the costly mistakes in settlement, cultivation and irrigation.

Liberals are prepared to put crop insurance to a practical test and we would draw attention to a Liberal motion made in the Legislature in 1957. But that was two years ago and nothing has been done.

Our people have strong views about agriculture education, about water conservation and agree with the recommendations of a Government appointed committee which reported with biting criticism about Alberta's irrigation policies. Irrigation should be developed but only in accordance with need.

## Farm Policy of The Alberta Progressive Conservative Party

by CAM KIRBY,

Progressive Conservative Leader

The Progressive Conservative farm program is built upon the assumption that a provincial Government can do little with respect to prices received by farmers, and that action must be taken to reduce costs — the one area in which a crisp farm policy can be genuinely effective, at the provincial level.

The Progressive Conservative 12-point program for prosperity in agriculture is designed to help relieve the cost-price squeeze through cutting costs.

Space limits the detailed elaboration of the policies. But the policies cover rural electrification, irrigation, rural industrialization, agricultural education, farm credit, livestock, rural telephones, the marketing of farm products, crop insurance, farm labour, machinery repairs and the appointment of farmers onto boards and commissions dealing with farm questions. In all twelve areas a Progressive Conservative Government has firm policies designed to improve present practice.



Perhaps farm credit is a useful example. All farmers are aware that a lack of available credit is hindering the growth of the farming industry. A Progressive Conservative Government will immediately establish a farm credit program under which a farmer will be able to borrow up to \$25,000 for a term up to 30 years at an interest rate not more than 1% above the rate at which the province can borrow. For young, starting farmers the rate will be 4%.

There are other examples. A Progressive Conservative Government will take positive steps to see that electricity is delivered to farms at a reasonable cost. It will reverse the centralizing practices that have pushed municipal debt up to \$343 million while provincial debt has been wiped out — a shifting of provincial debt to the books of the municipalities. This debt will finally appear in taxes — lacking the Progressive Conservative new deal for municipalities — and this again will raise the cost of producing on our farms.

The Progressive Conservative Party believes the line must be held on these costs. Its farm program has been clearly defined, and it is drafted to have this effect — to check and reverse the steady rise in the cost of production on our farms.

## C.C.F. POLICY

Farmer M.P.'s from Alberta helped to frame the policies of the C.C.F. From the beginning, the pronouncements of the organized farmers were taken as the basis of C.C.F. agricultural policy. That is still true, and is so stated in our platform. Farmers basic economic problems can be solved only on the floor of Parliament; accordingly the C.C.F. has been the chief advocate of the political measures required to meet the farmers' economic needs. There is no occasion on record when the C.C.F. members of Parliament failed to present and to advocate the farmers' declared needs. That practice will be continued.

The menace to the farmers' freedom presented by vertical integration; the extending of farmers markets so as to supply the needs of a hungry world; the justice and the urgency of a parity income for farmers; freight rates and deficiency payments; these are merely samples of the most pressing issues which C. C.F. elected representatives have constantly championed.

While farmers and workers fight

## Prime Minister Meets The Western Farm Delegation Committee

by CLARE ANDERSON

A committee of the Western Farm Delegation met Prime Minister Diefenbaker and his cabinet to further discuss deficiency payments on grain. The committee was made up of a representative from each of the three prairie farm unions, the three prairie Wheat Pools, the U.G.G., and the three prairie federations of agriculture. Alberta was

among themselves those who own Canada enjoy profit melons. Textiles reaped profits of 466.7%; B.A. Oil in 10 years increased profits by 657%; Calgary Power by 563%; the Steel Company of Canada by 826%; and Industrial Acceptance Corporation (Loan Co.) increased profits by 3286%! Here are fields in which provincial and federal governments could act to prevent the farmer's being impoverished by high costs.

But neither our present federal nor provincial governments will so act because all political parties except the C.C.F. support the system which makes profit the only objective.

That is why only C.C.F. supports a publicly owned power system, a car insurance plan handled without profit by the government, and an increased share of our oil and gas resources for the people.

Though farmers are now paying too much land tax, present government policies are increasing their burden of municipal debt. Much of the tax dollar is paying interest on money which belongs, not to the provincial government, but to all Alberta people.

Is this necessary? The C.C.F. says "No'."

Six years ago the per capita municipal debt of Sask. was \$40.93; in Alberta it was \$3.66. But by 1955 the Saskatchewan debt had dropped to \$28 while in Alberta it had risen to \$53.23. Saskatchewan rural municipal debt increased by 1,454%. No wonder that while the average tax per ¼ section (including school) in Saskatchewan was \$87.00, in Alberta it stood at \$115.00.

The C.C.F. supports, now as in the past, the program of the organized farmers. For details, read your copy of the C.C.F. Program.

represented by Gordon, Harrold, President of the Alberta Wheat Pool, Nelson Malm, of the A.F.A. and Clare Anderson, FUA vice-president.

We had a good frank discussion, lasting all morning. The brief presented this time answered fully the questions the Prime Minister asked on March 10.

Mr. Diefenbaker still would not commit himself other than to say the matter is receiving full and careful consideration. There were indications, I believe, that payments going back more than one year will not be considered. The cabinet seems to agree that the farmer is in a difficult position and I believe that some help is still forthcoming. The form it will take has not as yet been decided. The Prime Minister in summing up, stated that attention is being given to a reasonable two price system on domestic grain.

In the afternoon we met with the agricultural committee and the Western Conservative members.

We did not agree with all of them on the best method to help the western farmer but we did have a real good session with them. They are all sincere in their efforts to get a better deal for agriculture.

\* \* \*

SASKATOON — May 26 — A.P. Gleave, chairman of the I.F.U.C. said in a telephone interview from Ottawa today his personal impression was that Prime Minister Diefenbaker was "very reluctant to consider deficiency payments and is looking for other approaches to the grain problem".

"I am not sure the solutions the the need," Mr. Gleave said. The Prime Minister is looking for will meet Minister had stressed the political difficulties of large-scale deficiency payments which would not be acceptable in the East. Mr. Diefenbaker had asked whether the farm organization position was "deficiency payments or nothing." Any action taken by the government would be for one year only, not necessarily on a continuing basis.

## SPRAY CROPS EARLY

Crops should be sprayed with 2,4-D before they reach the four to five leaf stage, says W. Lobay, Alberta's supervisor of weed control. Delay in spraying means greater competition from weeds for moisture plant food, light and air. In addition, weeds reduce tillering of cereal crops. Thus the earlier they are removed, the better start the crop will get, says Mr. Lobay.



## District 12 F.W.U.A. Conference Held In Claresholm

The meeting was opened by the Dist. Women's Director, Mrs. House of Arrowwood. Morning thoughts were given by the local Nazarene Minister who, very fittingly, was a woman. She gave the women a great deal to think about.

Reports of all locals present showed them to be very active. They contribute to Cancer, Mental Illnesses, etc., trying to be of assistance in the world about them as well as just in their own community.

High River was set as the next conference place, with the date to be announced.

Mrs. Gibeau, provincial first vice-President, urged all to assist in the Jr. Camp project to the utmost. She feels that Vertical Integration will come eventually unless something is done to assist the farmer.

Mrs. House urged all to attend the District Convention, to be held in High River in the Memorial Centre. She asked us to assist in the financing of the A.C.W.W. delegate. She feels that too great a portion of our skilled personnel are going to the States, due to the higher wages there.

Mr. Miller, Executive Director of the New Canadian Mental Health Rehabilitation Centre which has been opened up in Calgary, was introduced by Mrs. Lyons of Nanton. He feels children should go to school to broaden their mental out-look on life, not just to obtain a degree. Good mental health is the greatest health problem of today. It is not the greatest killer but there are more mentally ill persons than any other one disease. More than 50% of hospital patients are mental. A very large number of them are not able to assume responsibility but will never end up in an institution. Mental illness very often strikes those who feel they are the safest in not becoming so. **A PERSON WITH GOOD MENTAL HEALTH IS ONE WHO CAN LIVE AT PEACE WITH HIMSELF; HIS FAMILY; FRIENDS; NEIGHBORS; AND ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE LAND.** There are various types of mental illnesses. The reason why we become mentally ill is not known but factors which hasten its approach are continuous drinking, filthy talk, taking religion too seriously, etc. He explained the Schizophrenic, Paranoid, and Psychotic. Schizophrenia or split personality

is usually not feared. The Paranoid is temporarily dangerous. The Psychotic type is the one which begins in childhood. This is very often caused by not being trusted, it is often the hardest to cure and requires the longest time in which to do so. Mentally ill persons require a great deal of LOVE so that they will not be SHUNNED. Water-shock was the first treatment used but they found it did not always last. Then came electro-shock, but this proved too severe for some. Insulin-shock produces a coma and it seems to be a big help. However, the BLESSED DRUG for Mental Illness is the TRANQUILIZER. More completely lasting cures are obtained with this than with any other drug or treatment to date.

Mr. Miller finds on talking with patients in institutions that they all dread being discharged because of the false stigma toward mental illness. He urged all to assist in the work of Mental Health, whether in or out of institutions. Never shun nor neglect these people. The greatest problem today is the child who is emotionally disturbed. Symptoms which may be used as warnings, but do not mean your child is disturbed, are, 1. nail-biting; 2. poor mixer; 3. habits such as twisting their hair. These are not sure signs but if they continue use them as a warning and take your child to the proper doctor. These symptoms are caused by something bothering the child, and being always on its mind, — a very good example is constant nagging. A child's disposition is formed by the age of 4 months by the surrounding environment. Life's pattern is pretty well established by the age of 13, and usually remains the same till death. Never show favoritism, never chastise or scold in front of people, be moderate in your religion. Mother love is not enough, they need father love also. They feel that the T.V. is a very good stabilizer for the growing child.

A very worthwhile day came to a close with a dainty lunch. Credit for the success of the day goes to Mrs. House, assisted by Mrs. Herriman, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Huddleston, as well as members of the various committees which are too numerous to mention.

## F.W.U.A. Hi-Lites

Craigmyle FWUA #1102 report \$54 received from bake sale. Several large boxes of clothing given by members for the Salvation Army at Drumheller.

Spruceville FWUA #912 (Blackfalds) have completed a drive for a F.U.A. Scholarship Fund in the Lacombe School Division, and with the help of donations

from several other locals this fund has been set up and will be available to a qualifying student in August 1959. Donations to date this year were made to Red Cross, Cancer Society, Red Shield, CNIB, Polio Fund, Mental Health Work, Junior FUA Queen and ACWW.

\* \* \*

Park Grove FWUA #609 (Vegreville) heard a very interesting report of the sub-district convention in Vegreville, also a report on the lunch the ladies served at the convention. Two of the members are canvassing for Cancer Fund. One member gave her study of Switzerland for the month of April. Roll call was "How can we improve our meetings."

\* \* \*

Aunger FWCA #1101 (Fenn) report making and turning in six complete layettes and six baby crib quilts to be sent to U.S.C. Next meeting they will be handing in used clothes for the U.S.C.

\* \* \*

Stapledene FWUA #713 (Lloydminster) raffled a kitchen treasure chest which brought in \$17.20. Clothing is being collected for local welfare, and jars and spools for the retarded children's school. \$30.00 is being sent to the Jr. FUA camp fund.

\* \* \*

Clearwater FWUA #1308 (Medicine Hat) have agreed to donate the profits from the lunch concession of one of their regular dances to the Goldeye Lake camp fund. A donation was made to ACWW fund. An attempt is being made to secure the film on "Better Driving" for showing in the near future.

\* \* \*

Drumheller East FWUA #1111 finished a quilt and handed in work for the Red Cross at their last meeting. A discussion is being held with regard to having a broadcast of FWUA news over CSDV radio station.

\* \* \*

Swallowwell FWUA #1017 have a number of matters under discussion re future projects. Miss Ethel Jasman, Jr. Dist. Director showed slides and spoke on the Goldeye Lake project. This meeting was attended by the FUA men as well.

\* \* \*

Jefferson FWUA #1401 (Cardston) have arranged for a film showing of lung cancer at a joint FWUA and Home and School meeting, with students invited. Very interesting reports on the summer conference at Lethbridge were given by those who were able to attend.

(Continued on page 30)



# **STOP !**

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## FUA QUEEN WINNERS



LUCILLE POLLOCK

1959 JUNIOR F.U.A. QUEEN

Lucille is a member of the 4-H Beef Club; Junior F.U.A.; Hi C; and has played house league volleyball, basketball and softball. She is attending Western Canada High School in Calgary. Lucille represented District 10 in the contest.



KATHERINE MANDZUİK

2nd PLACE WINNER OF THE 1959 JUNIOR F.U.A. QUEEN CONTEST

Katherine is an active member of the Thorhild Students Union; 4-H Grain Club; F.U.A. and is President of the 4-H Clothing Club. Katherine also sings in the church choir, and represented District 6 in the contest.



ALMUTE SCHMIDT

3rd PLACE WINNER OF THE 1959 JUNIOR F.U.A. QUEEN CONTEST

Almute is very active in community activities. She enjoys dancing, skating and swimming and is an active member of the choir, Allied Arts Council and the local cheerleading group. Almute was District 7 representative.

### OTTAWA SUBMISSIONS . . .

(Continued from Page 5)

The following proposals were submitted:

#### 1. Parity Prices

For the purpose of moving farm income towards its fair share of the national income, it would be necessary to calculate parity prices for farm commodities which would cover the costs of production, including a fair return on labor and investment. These prices to be based on the actual experiences of a sizeable number of family farms of economic size.

#### 2. Floor Prices and Deficiency Payments

The success or failure of the Agricultural Stabilization Act in achieving its stated objectives will depend very largely on the method of administration.

#### 3. Marketing

Farmers are aiming at directing the supply of the domestic market through their own marketing boards and co-operatives. They should be sustained and encouraged in their efforts by the government.

Eventually it should be possible to limit government participation in marketing to the disposal of surpluses. For this we urge the institution of a plan

designed to move surplus stocks into food deficient areas.

#### 4. Farm Credit

We want to emphasize the need for long, intermediate, and short-term loans for purchases of land, equipment and livestock as well as improvements. Farmers also request that a system of supervision will be introduced similar to the method used under the Veterans' Land Act.

#### 5. Crop Insurance

We hope that farm organizations will be given an opportunity to study and make recommendations on any proposed plan before it reaches the floor of the House.

#### 6. Reduction of Costs

Farmers have little control over their costs of production which are largely



**REMEMBER,**  
**YOU CAN STOP,**  
but the car driver can't.



# Farmers' Union of Alberta

9934 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta — Phone 40375

## EXECUTIVE:

President — Ed. Nelson, Brightview.

Vice-President — Clare Anderson, Freedom,  
Mrs. W. C. Taylor, Wainwright,  
A. B. Wood, Dewberry,  
Henry Young, Millet.

Secretary — Mrs. Pansy Molen.

F.W.U.A. President—Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite,  
Red Deer.

## F.W.U.A. EXECUTIVE:

President — Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite,  
R.R. 4, Red Deer.

1st Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Laura Gibeau, Morinville.

2nd Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Paul Dowhaniuk,  
R.R. 4, Edmonton.

## JUNIOR EXECUTIVE:

President — Dean Lien, Warner.

1st Vice-Pres. — Alex McCalla, Bremner.

2nd Vice-Pres. — Tom Nisbet, Bremner.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### District F.U.A.

1. Uri Powell, Sexsmith
2. H. Hibbard, Nampa
3. Tom Foster, Dapp
4. Paul Babey, Bonnyville
5. Oscar Hittinger, Morinville
6. S. A. Sanford, Vegreville
7. Ralph Wilson, Vermilion
8. W. R. Hansel, Gadsby
9. D. G. Whitney, Lacombe
10. L. Hilton, Strathmore
11. James A. Cameron, Youngstown
12. George Loree, Parkland
13. Anders H. Anderson, Box 327, Med. Hat
14. Harry Patching, 639-10th St., S., Lethbridge.

### F.W.U.A.

- Mrs. M. Robertson, Clairmont  
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Mrs. Helen James, R.R.1, Manola  
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Mrs. M. Roberts, Owendale

### JUNIOR F.U.A.

- Don Johnson, La Glace  
Mrs. Delores Gardner, Reno  
Harvey Sterling, Westlock  
Dan Kachmarchuck, St. Lina  
George McMillan, Picardville  
Dick Schroter, Bremner  
Eugene Elm, Hardisty  
Warren Henderson, Forestburg  
Charlie Bowie, Morningside  
Ethel Jasman, Three Hills  
George Doupe, Oyen  
Mark Strang, Charesholm  
Gerald Schuler, Hida  
Carl Culler, Warner

**WAR VETERANS' SECTION:** Chairman—C. J. Versluys, Champion; Secretary—H. G. Hughes, Enchant

determined by outside factors. Unlike industry, farmers cannot pass on increases of costs to their customers. A check on the rise of costs is needed. We are not prepared at this time to propose outright price control, but believe that other measures could be used to bring down inflated prices. An example would be prevention of "self-financing" of industrial expansion. It used to be that growth was financed by new capital raised through share or bond issues. Lately it has become customary for industry to set aside a share of the consumer's dollar to accumulate funds for expansion. This is an injustice to the consumer whose price is unduly increased, as well as to the public at large which is prevented from investing its savings in a way that will permit it to participate in the continuously increasing wealth of the nation. The practice prevents wider distribution of ownership and favors its concentration. Were corporations compelled to distribute all net earnings to their shareholders and raise expansion capital from outside sources, prices to the consumer could be lowered.

### 7. Export Subsidy on Flour

We request that the flour adjustment paid to Canadian flour mills be borne by the federal treasury.

### 8. Soil and Water Conservation

We respectfully suggest that the Sen-

ate study on land use be urged to step up its efforts. We believe that much land is and has been put into production, that can never produce efficiently. This problem will continue until some means is found to designate land to its proper use.

### 9. Freight Rates

We are very much concerned with the continued increase in freight rates. We welcome your announcement of a study of the freight rate structure in Canada, and believe that until such a study is conducted, no increases should be tolerated. We believe that any such study should include the question of highway trucking.

### 10. P.F.A.A.

We request that PFA payments in future be made on an individual basis and that information as to basis of payment and land location be included with the cheque.

### 11. Cash Advances

We commend the government for making cash advances on farm-stored grain available, and request that this policy be continued. We also request that tenants be enabled to draw cash advances without first securing the signature of the landlord.

### 12. Food Bank

We welcome the proposal of the Prime

Minister that the NATO powers set up a food bank and hope that further steps will be taken to achieve this objective.

### Other Topics Covered:

13. Co-operative Development
14. Flax and Rye (should be marketed by the Wheat Board)
15. Amendment to the Basic Herd Regulations
16. Estate Tax Act
17. Mental Health Research
18. Livestock Diseases
19. Recognition of and Trade with China.

**ATTEND  
FARMERS'  
DAY  
PICNIC  
IT IS YOUR  
DAY.**



## FWUA HI-LITES

(Continued from page 26)

Fairdonian Valley FWUA #802 (Sedgewick) plan to donate \$10.00 to Jr. FUA camp fund, also \$5.00 to Cancer fund. The delegate to District 8 conference in Strome gave her report. Following adjournment Mrs. Redman displayed a collection of pottery from Medicine Hat, and gave a short account of glass blowing.

\* \* \*

Sunny Hills FWUA #1112 (Morris) have planned to have a joint meeting with the FUA for the film and quiz on Safety. A picnic is to be held at the river on Farmers' Day. The local will be giving an engraved tray to the second place girl in the local 4-H sewing club. This prize will be made annually. A demonstration on how to make sponge rubber flowers was given.

\* \* \*

Red Deer Lake FWUA #1216 (Calgary) have agreed to have a family social twice a year with the FUA group, with some form of entertainment to help raise funds toward a new community hall, or any other worthy cause.

\* \* \*

Marwayne FWUA #716 report the following accomplished since January: 51 baby gowns and pyjamas for older children—for Lloydminster Hospital; (materials were supplied by them); from the scraps left 15 baby blankets 36 by 36 inches, in crazy patches, with flannelette backing, were sent to the Indian hospitals; 54 Easter baskets were filled for the aged and those living alone and the sick in the district; gave \$5.00 donations to the four youth groups in town—the CGIT, the Explorers, the Cubs and Scouts; gave a \$50.00 donation to the Red Cross and \$50.00 to the FUA Jr. Goldeye camp project.

\* \* \*

West Wind FWUA #1217 (Pincher Creek) are making donations for mass delegation expenses; Red Cross; and School for Retarded Children at Lethbridge. A nice letter of thanks for gifts received was sent in from the mental hospital.

\* \* \*

Bay Tree FWUA #106 are packing ten layettes for U.S.C. This local is to buy bleached flour sacks to be made into sheets for the children's home.

\* \* \*

Three Hills FWUA #1018 are making plans to hold a sub-district rally early in July. Various topics for a program were suggested. It is suggested that a joint FWUA-FUA-Jr. meeting be held to see the film "Better Driving Test." The questionnaire on "Television in

Education" was discussed at some length. \$20.00 donation to Ladies' Curling, for use of kitchen when catering to Farmers' Bonspiel, was made.

\* \* \*

Cherry Point FWUA #110 held their first meeting (this is a new local) and all members were very enthusiastic about assisting Jr. FUA work. It is hoped to have the film "Better Driving Test" when they hold their Farmers' Day picnic, feeling this should attract a good turn-out. The ladies plan to sell lunch that evening, which will be their first money-making project.

\* \* \*

Anthony Hill FWUA #909 (Ponoka) heard delegates' reports on the FWUA conference in Wetaskiwin, and Glen Dean, sub-district director, gave his report on the Ottawa march. Both reports were very informative. Donations made to ACWW and Pennies for Friendship. A potluck supper was held, and Del. McCorkle showed films.

\* \* \*

Lornedale FWUA #808 (Viking) report various activities in their local. Also, Mrs. Keast gave her report on the district conference held April 1st.

\* \* \*

Dimsdale FWUA #104 (Grande Prairie) plan to cater for the FUA convention in June. Plans are also made for a community picnic to be held on Farmers' Day.

\* \* \*

Berrywater FWUA #1202 (Milo) decided to donate \$25.00 to the Junior Camp Fund. Also it was planned to make a donation toward completion of the the community centre kitchen.

\* \* \*

Egremont FWUA #607 plan to hold a dance and banquet, along with FUA members, on Farmers' Day.

\* \* \*

Chestermere FWUA #1007 (Hubalta) donated \$12.00 to ACWW delegate, and \$10.00 to retarded children in Calgary. An auction sale of plants was held after the meeting adjourned.

\* \* \*

Picardville FWUA #311 answered roll call with "The subject I like best, and why". A layette is to be made and sent to U.S.C. A dance is planned for Farmers' Day.

\* \* \*

Dolcy-Browning FWUA #702 (Edgerton) enjoyed a very informative sewing demonstration given by Mrs. L. V. Jackson.

\* \* \*

Jubilee FWUA #1310 (Hussar) planned to send \$100.00 as a donation to the Bassano Municipal Hospital. Final arrangements were made for a fashion

## OPEN FORUM

Letters for publication from members and subscribers only in The Open Forum must be brief. Pen names may be used if desired, but the pen name of the sender must accompany the letter. A recent Board of Directors' ruling limits letters to 300 words and those longer cannot be accepted. Readers are asked to observe this change. The F.U.A. does not endorse or accept any responsibility for opinions expressed under this heading.

The Editor,  
Organized Farmer.

Sir:

Upon attending the F.W.U.A. conference held in Claresholm, I was saddened to see so many locals in District 12 not represented. It is very true that those that were there were very interested, but being District 12 FUA secretary I know that there were a great number of women who are members of our organization who were not there. I wondered if they believed that because they belong to a joint local they cannot attend? I sincerely hope that more of you will feel free to attend next year.

I would also like to get in my two bits worth re Mental Training School in Red Deer, and I agree with Mr. Miller, in fact, that they find it very hard to face the public. There is no more shame to being mentally ill than there is to having an appendectomy, and I feel that the sooner the general public realizes this and gets out to attend meetings, and assist in any way possible the work which is being done, the sooner we will lessen the time of treatment and rehabilitation of the people. If it were a meeting for some type of entertainment the hall would be filled, but because it is about mental illness, they all stay home. Let me say here you never know when someone you love may become mentally ill—either from old age, disease or some other cause. Therefore, I urge you to give of your time and money till it hurts, to help in this worthwhile work so that it may be done as efficiently as possible.

Yours sincerely,  
(Mrs.) Annabel Parslow,  
District 12 FUA Secretary

show at the community hall. It is planned to have the district home economist at the August meeting.

\* \* \*

Heath FWUA #703 plan to give \$1.00 per member to the Junior cap project. Material to be sent to Unitarian Service.



are *you!*

**CARELESS ABOUT  
PROPER COVERAGE ?**



**SIGN UP WITH YOUR  
F.U.A. CAR POOL NOW!**

**See Page 14 for Agents**



# NOMINATION FORMS

and membership lists have been mailed to all Wheat Pool members in even-numbered sub-districts.

The Alberta Wheat Pool is exactly what you, its members make it.

## YOU

elect the officials who govern it.

It is up to

## YOU

to see that a good candidate for the office  
of

# Wheat Pool Delegate

is nominated in your sub-district before 5:00 p.m. on June 30.

Full instructions for making nominations are given on the forms at the back of the membership list.

See your neighbors today and start selecting your man.

